

HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



Thursday, October 11, 2012

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Red tape hitch to freedom for Lenny



Lenny Henry

RED tape has delayed a decision to award Dudley comedian Lenny Henry the Freedom of the Borough.

Dudley councillors were expected to officially confirm the comic would become an Honorary Freeman of the Borough at an extraordinary meeting that was held on Monday.

But Conservative leader Councillor Les Jones proposed a motion for the decision to be delayed until the next meeting in November.

He called for a working party to be formed to develop "clear and agreed" guidelines which could be used in the future.

Councillor Jones said the accolade had previously been bestowed on councillors who had served for 35 years or military regiments with long-standing ties to the borough. He said the only exception to this had been Dudley-born mountain climber and peace campaigner Bert Bissell.

Gloves are off at raffle

A PAIR of boxing gloves signed by members of Team GB Boxing raised £350 when they were raffled at a match night in Cradley Heath.

The cash from the gloves, brought back by Lions Boxing Club coach Bob Dillon from this year's Olympic games, will go towards equipment for the gym in Bull Street, Brierley Hill.

The gloves were presented to the winner by professional boxer Joe Murray, best known for his 2007 World Amateur Boxing Bantamweight Championship.

£400,000 TEAM TO TACKLE NUISANCES

by Heather Large

ALMOST £400,000 will be spent setting up a specialist team of workers tasked with tackling anti-social behaviour in council homes in Dudley. The team will be responsible for trying to drive down the number of complaints which are logged with the council each year.

A third more wardens will target illegally parked vehicles

THE number of traffic wardens at Dudley Council will be increased by more than a third in a bid to tackle illegal parking in problem areas.

The council says a shortage of enforcement officers means out-of-town regions, including the roads around Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital, have been overlooked. But now five staff will be recruited in the coming weeks, in addition to the 14 employed by the authority.

Transport chief, Councillor Judy Foster said the council should have 23 officers but previous cuts have left the numbers depleted.

It comes as residents living near Russells Hall Hospital complain that new restrictions designed to stop the roads getting clogged up are not being enforced.

It was revealed that no tickets were issued in the surrounding streets in three months since the crackdown started.

Some 125 drivers have been fined for illegally parking in Pensnett High Street outside the hospital since July 1 - where parking was already banned. Council chiefs say there were no tickets issued in neighbouring roads in the same period.

In the year up to October 1, there were 21 notices handed out in Busheyfields Road, and just two apiece in Elgar Crescent and Tennyson Street. None in Byron Street and Vicarage Road. Councillor Foster said: "Enforcement resources have been very thinly spread and the priority points were busy areas in town centres and other areas."

They will also help people who report problems, attempt to resolve issues that arise between tenants and gather evidence for court hearings.

Last year the authority received 823 reports about anti-social behaviour between March and December.

The council issued six possession orders, where a court grants the authority possession of a property.

Two court injunctions were also handed to tenants, which can lead to a fine or jail if they are breached.

The council is now planning to recruit a team manager, four anti-social behaviour officers, a tenancy fraud officer, a housing management assistant, two housing solicitors and two legal housing assistants. The cost will be £393,224.

Effective

Councillor Khurshid Ahmed, said: "The people of Dudley have consistently asked for a robust approach on issues relating to anti-social behaviour, and this new team will build on our commitment to that."

"The team will work closely with the legal department and take appropriate and effective action against the people who cause anti-social behaviour. I want to send a clear message that Dudley Council will no longer tolerate anti-social behaviour."

"The team will be responsible for investigating and responding to complaints of anti-social behaviour."

"It will provide support, reassurance to those who make complaints of anti-social behaviour or nuisance and collect evidence as professional witnesses, where necessary. The team will also be responsible for counter-fraud policy."

The council is also tackling anti-social behaviour through the 'troubled families' scheme.

More than 700 families in the borough in Dudley will be offered help as part of a Government programme aimed at tackling problems which are often passed from generation to generation.

Funding will be provided in a bid to encourage more children to return to school and get more adults back into work.

Students step up for challenge



Students taking part in the 70-mile sponsored running challenge in Halesowen

STUDENTS from a Halesowen school put on their running shoes for a 70-mile sponsored challenge.

A team of six pupils at Leasowes High School were raising money for Greenhill Youth Centre in Long Lane.

Rhys Murphy, Connor Banner, Kieran Brooks, Mobasher Iqbal, Wahidur Rahman and Rhys Boswell, all in Year 11, ran a distance of 70 miles on a treadmill in the school's fitness suite.

They aim to raise more than £100 to fund new recreational equipment at the youth centre. Asda Quinton supported the

event by providing the Leasowes students with refreshments to keep them fed and watered as they ran.

Mentoring services manager, Chris Bennett said: "At Leasowes we are keen to support our young people who wish to invest in their community by undertaking fundraising."

"These students are a credit to our organisation and we are all in support of their venture."

Any one who wishes to sponsor the students concerned can contact Chris Bennett at Leasowes on 01384 816 285.

FA trophy winner Neil dies aged, 51

A FORMER cup winning footballer who lifted a trophy on the hallowed turf of Wembley has died suddenly aged 51.

Neil Moore was part of the Halesowen Town side which won the FA Vase in 1986 - its second win in the competition in as many years.

The father-of-two, from Ambecote, near Stourbridge, went on to make 186 appearances for the Yeltz having made his debut in 1985.

He made the first team for their 3-0 win in May 1986 against Southall under the famous twin towers.

Fellow players and officials from the club have paid tribute to Mr Moore following his sudden death on October 4 at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital.

He leaves his wife Nicola together with his children - daughter Alex, aged 21, and 18-year-old son Chris.

Club chairman Colin Brooks said the thoughts of everyone associated with Halesowen Town were with Mr Moore's family.

"It is very sad news as he was fondly remembered as being part of the club's most successful team," he said.

Halesowen Town held a minute's silence in his honour ahead of their match against Kidsgrove Athletic at The Grove stadium on Tuesday night attended by his family.

Arson fears over trees

ARSONISTS are believed to have set fire to dozens of trees in four incidents on one housing estate in Halesowen - causing concerns from neighbours.

Mother-of-two Katie White, aged 38, of Uffmoor Estate, says she is disturbed by the pattern of fires, which have all happened within the past six weeks.

The latest happened early on Tuesday outside her father's house two doors from where she lives. Mrs White believes the fires are started with flammable liquid.

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Sports car smashes into kitchen



The Toyota MR2 that hit the house

A SPORTS car left the road and skidded more than 100ft along a grass embankment before smashing through a fence and into the kitchen of a house.

A young mother had been in the kitchen in Brierley Hill, just a minute before the convertible smashed into it.

It is believed the female driver of the red Toyota MR2 lost control after crossing the bridge in Pen-

snett Road and hitting a curb. She was cut free from the car by firefighters and taken to Russells Hall Hospital. Her injuries are not believed to be serious.

Rebecca Poyner, aged 17, had been mixing milk for her five-month-old son in the kitchen just one minute before the car hit. Miss Poyner's sister Stacey Havins, 24, her two-year-old daughter and two-month-old son, and mother Lesley

Poyner, 48, and her three-year-old son, were also in the house.

Lesley said: "We were sat in the living room feeding when I heard a big bang. I got up and went through to the kitchen and saw the front of the car bonnet. I got everyone out the house quickly and then called the police."

"It was so lucky the car hadn't gone through the wall one minute earlier."

Brother and sister kept a menagerie in squalor

A BROTHER and sister kept a menagerie of animals in squalid conditions in their Dudley home, a court was told.

Lawrence and Shirley Anne Griffin's pets which included a dog, five snakes, two cats, three birds, two lizards, a gerbil and two mice were found by RSPCA officers after the pair



Shirley Anne Griffin Lawrence Griffin

were evicted from the house.

Among the animals discovered, officers from the charity found a 15-year-old dog called Rocky lying on the floor, soaked in its own mess, in the Chestnut Drive house. The dog, which could not stand up, had to be put down.

Mr Griffin, aged 57, and Miss Griffin, 52, both of Stourbridge Road, Brierley Hill, appeared at Dudley Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Both pleaded guilty to causing unnecessary suffering to the dog and to not providing a suitable environment for the animal.

Mrs Gaynor Sutton, prosecuting, told the hearing, "In the front living room behind the door was an adult dog lying on its side. At first sight, the dog was unrecognisable."

Urgent

"The dog was unable to stand. The dog was extremely thin and needed urgent veterinary attention."

She added: "The house was squalid and filthy, the carpet was covered in general filth."

"A police officer described the smell as one of the worst he had ever smelt."

Vets found the dog was starving, dehydrated, had a tumour on its belly and was suffering from arthritis.

In interview, Mr Griffin, a security guard for West Midlands Police, said the dog had been left in the rush to leave the house, and they were going to return for him. The case was adjourned for reports. The pair will be sentenced on October 26.

Toasting reopening of JB's



Ramesh Ahir, front, Sol Morgan, left, Amarjit Mall, Michael Clews, Steve Welsh and Ravinder Ahir celebrate the reopening of the revamped Dudley club JB's

FAMOUS Dudley club JB's got the seal of approval from revellers as it reopened at the weekend.

The Castle Hill venue, where big names such as Led Zeppelin's Robert Plant and U2 have played, has undergone a 10-month, six-figure restoration and will hold live music and tribute nights, conferences, wedding receptions and banquet parties.

Tribute acts to Michael Buble, Amy Winehouse and Pink performed.

JB's closed in January 2011 after going into administration. It was auctioned for £225,000 and is owned by Ramesh Kumar Ahir, who took over in October.

The Northamptonshire businessman has owned Midland music and banqueting venues for 30 years.

£525,000 Christian fraudster is jailed

AN accountant who volunteered to be treasurer of a church and charity in Stourbridge has been jailed for stealing £525,000.

Stephen Methuen was sentenced to five years for fraud, which he committed as treasurer for both Amblecote Christian Centre, of which he was a member, and the Christian International Relief Mission.

But over a six-year period, he stole an estimated £400,000 from the evangelical church and more than £100,000 from the charity.

Some of the money was made up of £195,000 in falsified gift aid payments made to the Christian centre by the Government, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

The stolen funds was used by Methuen, aged 57, to pay off credit card debts and to help refurbish the Stourbridge home he shared with his, now estranged, wife Linda and her four children.

Some went to his failed business, Accountancy Services Midlands Ltd, which went into liquidation in 2009. Prosecutor Mrs Rona Campbell said: "He used particularly calculating and callous manoeuvres to keep the cash coming to him."

Oh, try, try, try, Delilah

DUDLEY Zoo is hoping a recently introduced female will prompt breeding among critically endangered primates.

Five-year-old spider monkey Delilah has joined male Goochie and females Zula and Valentine.

It is part of an international conservation programme for the species.

Zoo curator Matt Lewis said: "This year Spider Monkeys have, sadly, been upgraded on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species and are now considered critically endangered."

Free workshops

CHILDREN and families can take part in free workshops during Dudley's Family Learning Festival.

This year's theme is "Imagine" in a festival starting on October 23 with a free workshop at Dudley library by Miasma Comics illustrator Patrick Duval. Call 01384 818143.

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Baseball bat used in attack

A TEENAGER was attacked with a baseball bat in one of two mobile phone robberies in the region.

The 19-year-old needed hospital treatment after he was assaulted by four youths at a bus stop in Drews Holloway, Halesowen.

The victim dropped his mobile phone after being hit with the bat and the four youths, who had their faces covered, ran off with it.

Three of the youths were white, one was thought to be of mixed race. All wore clothing across their faces and one had a shoulder bag.

The incident on September 14, was followed by a similar robbery in Lutley Mill Road, Cradley on September 28 at 10pm.

Two teenagers, aged 15 and 16, were stopped by a group of older youths who held one of the victims in a headlock and forced the other to hand over their BlackBerry phones.

The attackers were white, late teens to early 20s. One was 5ft 6in, another 6ft.

One was wearing a dark grey hoodie with orange Adidas logo in the middle. The other was wearing a green hoodie. They had local accents. Police are looking into a possible link.

Village flag is approved

PLANS for a new flag to fly above a village in Dudley have been approved, paving the way for the scheme.

It's hoped the flag will provide a focus for community events in the centre of Gornal throughout the year.

Dudley Council has granted planning permission for the flagpole at the corner of Abbey Street and Abbey Road. Organisers are hoping to secure £1,389 from the authority's North Dudley Area Committee to fund the project.

Cash will be spent on manufacturing the flag and installing the pole.

Survey on care

DUDLEY residents are being asked for their views on adult social care in the borough.

The council is looking for as many people as possible who receive practical help on a regular basis to answer simple questions about their experiences.

Complete the survey at www.dudley.gov.uk/takeconsult or call 01384 814280.

Sex assault probe police seeking two men



CCTV images of two men police want to talk to

A WOMAN was sexually assaulted and robbed near a railway station in Dudley. Police have looked through CCTV footage from the time of the attack and have released images of two men they want to talk to.

Officers say the men might have witnessed something to help the inquiry.

The assault happened near Lye railway station.

The woman, who has learning difficulties, was also robbed of her phone and music player. She was sitting on a wall at a factory unit at the time.

The 21-year-old was asked for a cigarette by a man and had a conversation with him before he assaulted her. He then ran off in the direction of the station.

De Kim Humphreys, from the public protection unit in Halesowen, said: "These men were captured on CCTV at a nearby petrol station just prior to the assault."

"We would like to speak to them to see if they saw something which will lead us to the attacker."

"We would also like to hear from anyone who recognises them or from anyone who was in the area at the time and may have seen anything," De

Humphreys added. "The young woman was very distressed by her ordeal and would like to see her attacker brought to justice to prevent this happening to someone else."

The attacker was 6ft and of mixed race and with a scarring on his left arm, which formed the shape of dots.

He was wearing a red top with a pattern, with blue jeans, a black belt and light trainers. The attack happened on August 11 at around 12.30pm.

Anyone with information about the incident should call 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Market traders left feeling sick over changes to rules

MARKET traders in Dudley are protesting about changes to sick day rules that they claim will leave them out of pocket. Under current rules stall rent fees are waived for permanent traders if they have a serious or long-term illness.

by Heather Large

The council is now proposing instead that charges are waived only when someone is off sick for a period of six continuous weeks.

Dudley Council says the suggested new system would be "much simpler and fairer" for the stallholders and would be subject to a six-month review.

But stallholders are now calling for a rethink and are urging the council to consider a new policy. They want fees to be waived when someone has a doctor's note, regardless of how long they are off sick for.

They held a protest in the market place last week and have launched a petition to gather support for their campaign.

Chairman of Dudley Market Traders Association Len Lenihan claimed some of the traders had been seriously ill with heart attacks and cancer treatment but still had to pay for their pitches. Under the rules, a

stallholder needs to pay 80 per cent of the rent if they do not turn up due to illness that's not considered serious or long-term.

Mr Lenihan said: "We think the council needs to move with the times and have a more sensitive approach. In some cases the council doesn't lose out as there will be casual traders who will rent the pitch while someone is off sick."

Councillor Gaye Partridge, said: "For the past few months we have been talking with traders representatives in Dudley about a review of market regulations."

"The sickness policy, with regard to fees remains and is the only issue that still needs discussion."

"Currently there is a proposal on the table for a much simpler and fairer system which would be subject to a six month review."



Andy Matthews and Kevin Pullinger of the Laurel and Hardy Appreciation Society

Comedy tribute to aid fight

A LAUREL and Hardy themed fundraiser has been held for the campaign to save Dudley Hippodrome.

The Birmingham branch of the Laurel and Hardy Appreciation Society hosted the event at the Station Hotel in Castle Hill.

Four films were screened and a raffle was held in aid of the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome. Group leader Geoff Fitzpatrick said £141 was raised from entry fees and a further £79 from the raffle.

Mr Fitzpatrick said: "It went very well, we had about 40 people there and it was really good."

"The important thing is bringing people together and publicising the campaign and the issues around demolishing the Hippodrome and turning it into a car park."

Campaigners had expressed their disappointment after the boss of the nearby Black Country Living Museum backed Dudley Council's bid to demolish the building.

The campaign has also attracted the backing of locally born comedian Lenny Henry.

He said it was always important to preserve any live venue.

NEWS in brief

Church members to visit Uganda

A TEAM of adults and teenagers from churches in Kidderminster will travel to Uganda this month.

They have been invited by Alpha Uganda to partner with them in running training sessions in Lira, an area ravaged by conflict that ended in 2006.

The group will be working with church leaders and young people from the area, visiting secondary schools. They will also be stopping off in a National Park.

Hospice saving £1,000 per year

A HOSPICE in Worcester-shire is now saving more than £1,000 a year on waste collections thanks to Midland recycling firm.

Blackpole Recycling, Worcester offered to provide an enclosed skip to collect waste paper, rather than St Richard's Hospice having to pay for it to be collected.

Blackpole sales manager David Jenkins said: "We are delighted to support St Richard's and help save the charity money which can be better spent."

Go-ahead likely on £1m complex

A LEISURE attraction for Merry Hill centre looks set to be given the go-ahead after no formal objections were lodged.

Paragon Entertainment submitted two planning applications for the £1 million complex to Dudley Council last month.

The scheme, called Quest, will include five indoor and outdoor attractions.

Behind scenes of castle museum

A DAY of behind-the-scenes tours at Worcester-shire County Museum will take place on October 24.

The museum, at Hartlebury Castle, is to allow visitors to learn more about its collections.

Visitors will get a private tour of the museum's off-site stores. Tickets, are £6, and can be booked 01299 250416.

Lion puts bite on

A NEW mascot is encouraging children at schools in Wyre Forest to look after their teeth as part of a health initiative. The 6ft Lucky the Lion character has visited six schools.

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NEWS

THE BEST
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RHODES

A READER, having a problem with a company, sent an email of complaint and received a reply which begins: "I have noted your comments and can only apologise for the error and for any inconvenience caused." Perfect.

□□□□□□□□

HOW could Jimmy Savile have got away with so many alleged attacks on young girls without anyone making a fuss? Never underestimate the power of celebrity. Some years ago, the comedian Jack Dee made the point that people would have been less eager to defend Michael Jackson, with his bed-sharing parties and kiddy-magnet fairground, if he had been not a rock superstar but a lorry driver from Essex.

□□□□□□□□

WHAT is Lord Prescott of Thumpingham's favourite new Labour policy? "Having a go at the banks!" he snarls with relish. Those of us without severe amnesia will recall that John Prescott was part of the Labour government which let the banks do exactly as they wanted, and landed us in this mess.

□□□□□□□□

REMEMBER how before the 2010 General Election, the Tories promised an end to the daily diet of red tape and elf 'n' safety nonsense? We have since learned that more people are being prosecuted for piffing wheelie-bin offences and that more speed cameras are on the way. Just before the Conservative conference began came news that parents at a school in Swindon have been told they must pass a Criminal Records Bureau check before they can watch their children taking part in sports meetings. So the brave new world is much the same as the stupid old one.

□□□□□□□□

TALES from the National Parks (BBC4) was a typical story of our time, a clash between off-roaders and locals. The off-roaders have a legal right to drive 4x4s along the green lanes of the Peak District and seem determined to exercise that right, even if it brings disturbance and distress to residents. We have a similar problem in the urban fringe near Chateau Rhodes with moto-cross riders who turn up, rip the countryside to pieces, destroy the Sunday tranquillity and then accuse anyone who complains of being intolerant.

□□□□□□□□

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Carl makes passionate plea on museum jobs

HISTORIAN Carl Chinn has made a passionate plea to the Black Country Living Museum's bosses – urging them to reconsider their controversial cost-cutting plans which have put up to 70 job at risk.

Cuts vital says chief

THE chief executive of the Black Country Living Museum said he understood the reaction to cost-cutting plans but said they were vital for the museum's future.

Andrew Lovett did not attend the public meeting but before it said: "All we are trying to do is fulfill our potential and achieve what some of the best museums are doing throughout the country."

He said they wanted to improve educational services for children to give them a better understanding of the story of the Black Country.

Under plans, costumed demonstrators would still be there to talk to visitors and tell stories. He said there would be no compulsory redundancies as enough people had taken voluntary redundancy or offered to cut hours. Out of 56 demonstrators, five took redundancy and 25 cut hours.

He was among more than 150 staff, volunteers and museum supporters at the Station Hotel, Dudley, to air views on plans last week.

Changes may include halving the number of costumed guides to 40.

Professor Chinn said the guides and the stories they told about working class life in the Black Country were essential to the museum.

"I look around the room and I can see many guides, demonstrators and volunteers – you bring alive the Black Country Living Museum," he said.

Hope

"We have to give our kids hope. It's not just about the past. It's about telling them who they are and where they've come from."

"As a supporter, I say to the museum – stop, think, have a chat and listen. Let's see if we can find a middle way," he added.

Meeting chairman, John Homer, a guide for four and a half years, said the museum was "the jewel in the crown of the Black Country." He urged people to write to trustees, councillors and MPs to give their views.



Front, from left, Professor Carl Chinn and John Homer, who was chairing the meeting, at the Station Hotel. Centre, from left Sam Badger and Jill Bailey. Back, from left Rebecca Wilton, Luke Perry, Phil Pitt and Keith Mellor

New role move on 40 guides

FORTY costumed guides whose jobs were feared to be at risk may get new roles in cost-cutting plans to overhaul the Black Country Living Museum.

Jobs are among 70 that may be hit by plans to save £250,000 a year and close two days a week in winter.

It is now planned that guides will be employed as learning assistants and specifically be involved with school parties and work designed to fit in with the National Curriculum.

Museum chiefs wanted to reassure people that staff will still be at a site attracting more than 290,000 visitors a year. Director and chief executive Andrew Lovett says savings must be made as visitor numbers this year are down 15 per cent.

He launched a consultation with staff and hopes learning assistants will help attract more school parties.

Spokeswoman Fiona Carding said reassigning some guides had always been part of plans.

£210,000 will improve work

THE Black Country Living Museum has won two grants, totalling £210,000.

Arts Council England funding of £120,000 will develop and update the Rolfe Street complex which forms the main reception area and a £90,000 Designation Development Fund grant will fund a new collections management system.

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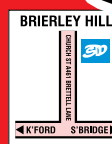
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Probation HQ scheme approved

PLANS for a two-storey HQ for about 80 probation staff, including some in Halesowen, have been approved.

Staff in Dudley, Stourbridge, Netherton and Halesowen will move to Castlegate Business Park, Dudley and offices run by Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust in the locations will be shut.

Offender management staff at Dudley Magistrates' Court will also relocate to the building.

A planning application was submitted to Dudley Council by developer Stoford, which has been contracted by the Ministry of Justice.

Planning permission has now been granted by the council and construction is expected to be completed by next September but the Ministry of Justice will not reveal the cost of the project.

Under the plans, interview rooms and group meeting rooms will be created on the ground floor. On the first floor there will be open-plan office space and an archives section.

A car park with 34 spaces, two electrical vehicle charging points and cycle storage are included in the plan.

Plan withdrawn

A PLAN to open a takeaway and restaurant at a former post office in Halesowen has been dropped.

A planning application for the change of use of the building in Queensway, was submitted. But GP Chartered Surveyors said it was now withdrawn.

Arcade bucks the trend of doom and gloom recession

IT may have been named as having the most empty shops for a town of its size, but independent traders in Dudley are bucking the trend of doom and gloom as the town's Fountain Arcade is full of operating stores.

Young traders have opened new businesses or expanded due to demand alongside more established outlets in the arcade.

Rent incentives, customers seeking specialist goods and community spirit are deemed among reasons for the success of the arcade, which opened in the 1920s.

The past six years have seen some of the toughest times as footfall dropped after loss of the nearby Stone Street car park.

When opened the arcade would have had 34 single shop units, but now, down to 16, all shops are let.

It comes just weeks after a report from the Local Data Company said Dudley had the worst percentage of empty shops among all medium-sized towns.

Traders say they have not been put off by the town's reputation and are thrilled to be open.

Sweet shop owner Suzanne Goodyear, aged 23, relocated from Stone Street two months ago.

"There is a good atmosphere in here with the other traders and I find it is more secure and better for shoppers," said Miss Goodyear.

Traders in Dudley are bouncing back from the gloom. **ANDREW TURTON** found out what's happening

who opened The Sucke Shop inspired by her aunt Tina's search for diabetic sweets.

Entrepreneur Abigail Wakelam, aged 25, is expanding her knitting business Castle Crafts, into the neighbouring empty unit, buoyed by sales.

"People like the individuality of independent traders who have time for their customers rather than bigger stores with sales assistants who do not know what they are selling," she said.

Businessman Nigel Smart, 44, is putting the finishing touches to his Chain Store Clothing shop which opens in three weeks.

He said: "The customers in Dudley are brilliant and there are regulars who keep coming back."

Cafe owner Andreas Mylonas cut short his retirement in Cyprus and hopes to open up a specialist Greek food eatery. He said: "There is a good footfall brought on by all the shops."



Suzanne Goodyear outside her shop in the arcade



The Fountain Arcade, off High Street, is full of stores



Andreas Mylonas at the London Grill and Coffee House



Abigail Wakelam, far right, at Castle Crafts



Nigel Smart, who is opening a new clothes store

NEWS in brief

Discount offer on scheme for bins

RESIDENTS are being offered a discount if they sign up to a garden waste scheme this month.

They will be asked to pay £10 for the brown bin plus the service cost of £32.50 - a reduction of £10 on the normal cost. Wyre Forest residents already signed up can get additional bins delivered free and pay only the service cost.

People who join in October will get at least two collections before the service stops for winter. For details visit www.wyreforestdc.gov.uk/gardenwaste

Councillor stops smoking for cause

DUDLEY finance boss Councillor Pete Lowe is taking part in the Government's public health Stop-tobacco campaign to quit smoking in October. He usually smokes 15 a day.

Councillor Lowe, who has smoked for 28 years, hopes to raise £100 for the Mayor's charities using what he saves through not buying cigarettes.

Dance event is to aid hospice

DANCERS are invited to a charity sequence and ballroom dancing event at Lutley Community Centre, Brookwillow Road, Halesowen, on Saturday, October 20 (7.30pm to 11pm).

The event will raise cash for the Halesowen branch of Mary Stevens Hospice.

Tickets, priced at £5, are available by calling 0121 5508631.

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NEWS

Legion starts new bid to get war memorial moved

A FRESH bid to move a Dudley war memorial to a permanent new home has been launched by a Royal British Legion branch chairman.

Ken Finch wants the monument in Woodsetton to be given a facelift and moved to a more prominent place. It stands inside the grounds of the former Mount Tabor Methodist Church, Sedgley Road. The church was sold to a factory in 1998 leaving the memorial, which commemorates soldiers killed in the First World War, looking out of place.

Councillor Finch, chairman of the Lower Gornal branch, said residents were keen to find a spot for the monument where it could be seen by the whole of the community.

The Dudley borough councillor now plans to begin fundraising to cover the cost of the work and is also attempting to contact the owners of the site to find out whether the memorial could be moved.

"It's a lovely memorial and it would be nice to move it to a place where it can be seen by more people and be involved in remembrance day events," said Councillor Finch.

"The Royal British Legion branch has said it will do all it can to help so I am going to try to contact the owners of the site to get permission for it to be moved."

He added: "I would also like to restore the memorial which isn't in a bad state but it could do with a tidy up." It is the second time residents have attempted to relocate the memorial. In 2003 a group of volunteers, began plans to move the monument.



Councillor Ken Finch and campaigner Irene Semark at the war memorial

Staff collect cancer cash

SUPERMARKET staff in Stourbridge raised almost £200 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

A coffee morning was held in the foyer of Sainsbury's in Amblescote recently and raised £192.41 in just two hours. Customer restaurant manager Chris Holloway said: "We are so grateful to our customers."

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LETTERS

Don't tar all churches the same

RE: Mrs Round's letter, September 27
Please do not tar all churches with the same brush" when you describe them as having "joined the rip-off brigade".

I doubt your letter will be read by the specific church in Birmingham or the people involved, as they are probably outside the area covered by the newspaper.

However, your adverse comments, directed at all churches, will have been read by a large number of Chronicle readers.

Many churches, up and down the country, use cafes, shops and tea rooms,

generally staffed by volunteers, as a means of keeping these historic buildings open to the public, irrespective of belief or religion.

How sad it would be and a loss to society in general, if these ancient and significant buildings were generally padlocked from one Sunday to the next, except for weddings and funerals.

As an example St John's Church, in the centre of Halesowen, is a Grade 1 Listed Building, founded in 1083 and should be appreciated from the inside as well as the outside.

Volunteers, staffing a Fairtrade Shop and cafe, enable the church to be open

every morning. You can sit in the peace and tranquility of the cloisters, where people have congregated for almost 1,000 years and you can get a pot of Fairtrade tea and a Fairtrade cookie for 80p.

Hardly a "rip-off" and I doubt an extra tea bag would be an issue.

So please, give other churches a chance, as they need and rely on the support of the community to keep these buildings open for everyone, now and for future generations.

K RUDGE
Royal Oak Road
Halesowen

Offer of a cup of tea that's at a fair price

In response to Mrs D R Round's letter - September 27.

Regarding the cost of a cup of tea, she and her partner would be made very welcome if they were to drop in at St Andrew's Church, Bilston Street, Sedgley between 10 and 11.30am any Tuesday, Thursday or Friday.

A cup or mug of Fairtrade tea or coffee and a biscuit costs only 30p and if they care to take a copy of their letter, some proof of identification and this letter I will personally pay for their first cup. Churches are expensive buildings to maintain but we have different priorities when it comes to raising the money, so not all do it by charging commercial rates for every day items.

R E CHESWORTH,
High Park Crescent,
Sedgley

Town venue could be centre of attraction

I AM surprised at the Black Country museum, not surprised at Dudley council.

The Hippodrome theatre is part of the Black Country and a jewel in the crown. It has a lot of history of the many and some artists that are no longer with us.

It could be used for what it was originally built for and the museum and zoo to give presentations on. It can be a used as a conference centre.

Dudley council want the space of the Hippodrome for a car park, the town is surrounded by empty car parks, because there is little to go to Dudley for.

The Hippodrome is in the right area to bring in tourists, go to the museum or zoo, take in a show after.

NORMAN D CADDICK
Upper Ettingshall Rd
Coseley

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Halesowen Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial, 51-53
Queen Street, Wolverhampton
WV1 1ES

E-MAIL

dudleychrons@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

There is no demand for the Hippodrome

WHAT are the people writing to the press in support of the Hippodrome on? Have they had a look at the state of this building?

Mr Osborne of Dudley was right, it is an eyesore and completely obscures the landscape of the zoo and the castle.

This building would cost millions to renovate and what most people don't realise is the stage on which all the "stars of the past" performed has long since gone.

People have got short memories, it wasn't too long ago the region nearly lost the Grand theatre, think about it, if a city like Wolverhampton only just kept its theatre what chance has the hippodrome of being a viable theatre again?

If it was so great why did it become a cinema, then bingo hall in the first place? It's called the law of supply and demand and there just isn't the demand in Dudley and people need to face up to it. In the current climate the council have bigger priorities and with the new college buildings and the plans for the Cavendish House site, things are starting to change in Dudley.

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NEWS

Mother, 42, on benefits for mobility seen at gym

A MOTHER-of-three who received £4,000 in benefits after claiming she had severe mobility problems was seen regularly using a gym, a court heard.

by Andrew Turton

Aaisha Arif was a member at the Crystal Leisure Centre, Stourbridge and had not mentioned any disability problems to staff, Dudley Magistrates Court heard.

The 42-year-old had also been captured on video surveillance equipment walking normally in Brierley Hill High Street and near her home.

Arif, of Kingsway, Wollaston, Stourbridge, pleaded guilty to two charges of failing to notify change of circumstances affecting entitlement to social security benefit.

One related to claims for Disability Living Allowance between January 26, 2011, and September 13 this year. The second charge regarding claims for Disability Living Allowance between January 20 last year and April 4 2012.

Miss Lynda Gudgeon, prosecuting, said Arif received Disability Living Allowance in June 2007 after claiming she was "severely restricted" in her movement. But when benefits officers checked last year they found she was a member at the Bell Street centre.

Mr Sundip Murria, defending, said: "This is a case where the initial application was a correct application as she did have mobility problems."

Scarecrow show



Philip Worsley's Olympic Torch scarecrow

THOUSANDS of people enjoyed a multi-coloured showing of sporting prowess and royalty at the 15th annual Belbroughton Scarecrow Festival.

More than 100 scarecrows were made and presented by the villagers outside their homes for the weekend event.

The theme was 2012, and many scarecrows were of Olympic and Paralympic heroes and the Royal family.

Zac Overthrow, aged 9, and sister Freya, 5, won with a scarecrow of Zara Phillips on a horse.

The Belbroughton Primary School pupils made it with father Steve at their home.

Mother Louise said: "After five years of entering it's nice to win something." Philip and Carol Worsley, were second with a scarecrow of an Olympic torch with its head as the flame.

Mr Worsley, 64, ex-deputy head at Perryfields High School, Oldbury, said: "The great British Olympics year was our inspiration."

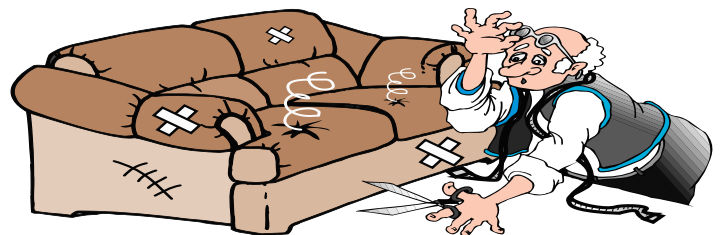
Organising committee publicity officer, Annette Adey said: "It was another great year, we had people come as far as Cardiff to see the displays."

Craft stalls still available at fair

ARTISTS and jewellers still have time to take up a stall at the Arts and Jewellery Fair at Netherton Arts Centre on October 13.

The event runs from 11am to 4pm and stalls cost £20 and are available by calling Claire Starmer-Jones on 01384 813943.

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NEWS

Flats at centre of kidnap probe will be reopened

Chalet-style council HQ



Council leader, Councillor John Campion, at the new £10 million HQ

WITH its wooden panelled walls it almost resembles an Alpine lodge – but this is the new £10 million home of Wyre Forest District Council.

The council headquarters is now open, with leaders saying it will bring a boost to regeneration plans for the area. Wooden panelling and towering glass entrances are the main features of the building.

Many of the 200 employees started moving into the building, in Finepoint Way, off the A451 between Kidderminster and Stourport, last week. They are all expected to be in within a fortnight.

Staff were originally due to begin work at the building at the start of September, but the move was delayed as vital computer links were not ready. The refuse and recycling,



The new district council building

environmental maintenance, parks and rangers teams will continue to operate from the council depot in Green Street, Kidderminster. But offices in Duke House and Coventry Street, Kidderminster, and Stourport Civic Centre will close. Council leader Councillor John Campion said the move would help save the authority £500,000.

A BLOCK of flats closed for months since it was at the centre of a probe into the alleged kidnap of a 10-year-old in Oldbury, is to reopen.

Black Country Housing Group are in talks to buy Lowrey Court, Bristnall Hall Road. Tenants of flats, where a child, allegedly kidnapped, was found by police, were moved out of their homes last November. The joint decision was taken by residents at Lowrey Court and the Adullam Homes Housing Association, which ran the block.

People were moved to other association properties, leaving the block empty.

Tenants feared attacks by people who thought the block was used as a halfway house for offenders, although this was denied by police.

Jay Rana, of the association said: "This purchase is under way and should be finalised in the next couple of months."

"Black Country Housing Group have consulted with the community and councillors to turn this property into a specialist community housing unit."

"They have shared with Adullam Homes that they intend to completely refurbish this unit to accommodate their local residents."

Steve Woods, Adullam Homes Housing Association director of business development, said: "We are pleased the Black Country Housing Group have decided to work with us to turn this unfortunate incident into something that will benefit people."

Authors to show works

TWO Black Country poets will be giving an insight into their work at an event in Bewdley this month.

Heather Wastie and Brendan Hawthorne will give a talk at the Hop Pole Inn, Cleobury Road, on Sunday, October 21 at 7.30pm. The evening will include dinner.

Tickets cost £15. For further details, visit, www.bewdleybookweek.org.uk

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MEMORY LANE



How TA Henn looked in the 1920s before the adjoining shops were bought



A new look for the shop front after the redevelopment of TA Henn in 1935



How shoppers see the front of TA Henn as they walk past it today

£1m sale and another new look as jewellers celebrate 165th birthday

IT is Wolverhampton's oldest jewellers, with generations of the same family serving customers since 1847.

And now it is to have a £100,000 transformation in celebration of its 165th anniversary. TA Henn bosses want to modernise the look of the Princess Street site.

The project began with a £1 million sale that started on Saturday to help raise funds for the refurbishment.

Managing director John Henn said the sale – only the second one that has been held in the company's history – will run until this Sunday, at which point the first phase of the revamp project will begin.

"We are going to start by creating a new-look window display with a completely new style," said Mr Henn, aged 51, who lives near Cosford. "The second part will be done early next year. While the

by Charlotte Cross

store is fairly modern already, we want to move with the times and give customers a more modern experience when they come into the store."

The first phase will be complete in time for the start of November, he added.

There will be 40 per cent off selected jewellery and 20 per cent off some Swiss brands of watches.

"We don't do sales very often so it has to be something worthwhile and we thought £1m would be a good figure," added Mr Henn, who is the sixth generation of his family to run the store.

"The money brought in from the sale will go towards the refurb."

The store held its first sale in 2007, again to fund a revamp.

One item not in the sale will be a 135-year-old engraved silver tankard that was recently returned to the store by its former owner who lives in Spain. Mr Henn has

said he will never sell the antique pint pot, which was originally presented to John Wesley Henn in 1872 by his brother Silas, who was the great-grandfather of the current owner. But the tankard can still be viewed at the city centre shop.

"We're always happy to have old bits of memorabilia or anything from our past," he said. "We are trying to piece together the shop's past so it all comes in handy."

"Because the store expanded from number 40, to numbers 40 and 41, and eventually to numbers 38 to 41, it can be a bit difficult."

The jewellers was founded by Thomas Austin in the 1800s.

Mr Henn said they dated the business back to 1847 as they have uncovered an old apprenticeship letter from the year – but said they suspect it may be even older than its official age.

Thomas Austin's father, Silas Henn, was a Tipton-based clock-maker. And it was his son, Thomas

Wesley Henn, who eventually took on the business after leaving his position in the army as a radio operator during the First World War.

Buying up two adjoining shops in 1935, Thomas Wesley rebuilt the premises and doubled its size. By the 1950s, Alan Wesley Henn had joined the growing family business and within a decade they owned eight stores.

However, the recession in the 1980s put a halt to the family's progress and so the company was forced to return to the original branch in Princess Street.

John Henn, the latest in the family line to take on the job, has followed in his grandfather in his personal life as well.

In the 1930s, Thomas Wesley Henn climbed Mont Blanc using only basic equipment. Eighty years later, in May last year, John Henn climbed the same mountain for charity.

He raised £10,000 for the Royal Marsden Cancer Hospital.



Up to the present day and John Henn promotes the £1 million sale



All change... demolition during the rebuilding in 1935

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NEWS

Speed campaigners give council bosses petition



Wyre Forest MP Mark Garnier with a letter expressing concerns about the road from Ray Kilgour, Cliff Brewer, Julian Phillips, John Thomas and Jim Parish near to St Bartholemew's school

CAMPAIGNERS targeting speeding drivers near a Stourport school have handed a petition to council bosses to cut speed limits.

They hope lowering the limit will force motorists driving along Princess Way, Areley Kings, to slow down.

Around 260 people, including residents and parents are demanding speeds are slashed by 10mph outside St Bartholemew's Primary School.

The campaign was launched by resident Ray Kilgour who had grown increasingly concerned.

He wants Worcestershire County Council to cut the limit from 30mph to 20mph in a bid to make drivers more aware of children.

Mr Kilgour, aged 75, who has lived in Princess Way for more than 30 years, says action needs to be taken before a serious accident happens. "It is for the safety of everybody but children especially, we don't want anyone getting hurt," he said. "I've had a lot of support for the petition as I've been going around to homes and up to the school."

Mr Kilgour gave the petition to County Councillor John Thomas who presented it to transport chiefs at County Hall for their consideration.

"This petition has universal support and I'm fully behind it," Councillor Thomas said. "I've been a councillor for four years now and this subject has been brought up time and time again." County transport chief Councillor John Smith has pledged to look into the situation.

Reunion has been set up

A REUNION is being held for pupils of a former Dudley school.

The event is for students who left the Sir Gilbert Cloughton School in 1962 or 1964. It will be held at Dudley Kingswinford Rugby Club on October 26. Call Roger Shakespeare on 07779 923687 for details.

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CLUB NEWS

Waitress tells tales of career

ALDRIDGE TOWNSWOMEN

DURING the summer break members enjoyed a trip to The Black Country Museum which was an enormous success.

The September meeting saw several new members who were warmly welcomed and many dates were written in dairies including Christmas dinner, a visit to the Cannock and Cinema Organ Club and the Federation tea.

The autumn programme kicked off with a talk on The Little Black Dress by Molly Murray, who told of how she started her career as a waitress in 1969 at the Swan, Yardley.

Her experiences saw her at many banquets and venues. One was at the NEC opening, which was attended by the Queen and Birmingham councillors. At a Young Farmers' dinner, Lapworth Molly and her colleagues served soup, tripe with cheese and crusty cobs, while the farmers enjoyed strippers for their entertainment. She was allowed to take some tripe home for her father.

In the 70s Molly attended 32 weddings in one year. She also served at Silverstone and polo matches.

Aldridge Townswomen's Guild meet at Aldridge Community Centre on the fourth Monday of the month at 2pm. On October 22 John Llewellyn will talk of 'A Trip to Turkey' and all members old and new will be most welcome to come for a chat and a cuppa.

'Old bag in the attic' is speaker's subject



The Ruskin Glass Centre in Stourbridge is the venue for a forthcoming visit

SPEAKER for September's meeting was Ashley Adams and her topic 'The Old Bag in the Attic', a most thought provoking title.

To illustrate her talk Mrs Adams brought along a collection of Victorian and Edwardian luggage, all solid leather, ranging from a tiny case containing a folding iron, plus means of heating this, and an enormous case, large enough to transport much of "madam's" wardrobe.

Mrs Adams was thanked for an entertaining talk and for stepping in when the sched-

QUARRY BANK E TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

uled speaker was unable to attend. Information was given out on forthcoming activities. A visit has been arranged to the Ruskin Glass Centre on October 30, to include a cream tea. Christmas lunch will be at the Mill Hotel on December 4.

"Bees and Honey" will be the subject of the talk at the October meeting.

Dunkirk memories relived

CHAIRMAN Brenda White opened welcomed members and visitors, before dealing with business.

She then introduced the speaker Ethel Lote, whose talk was about Dunkirk.

A nurse in an emergency military hospital, she gave a firsthand account of her involvement in the Dunkirk landings. As a representative of the British War

WALSALL CENTRAL TWG

Nurses; she was invited to attend the 70th anniversary commemoration of Operation Dynamo - the evacuation of Dunkirk in 1940.

She travelled to Dover with her son and at the ferry saw a number of historic army vehicles, some of

which were used in the evacuation. A Spitfire and Hurricane gave a display around the ship before 50 of the original little ships, which took part in the evacuation, also sailed for Dunkirk.

There, they stood on the helicopter deck for the British and French national anthems and a bugler played the Last Post before the 50 little ships sailed past.

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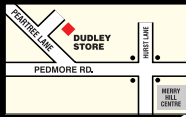
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NEWS

Council claws back more cash from banking crisis

A FURTHER £28,500 invested in an Icelandic bank has been returned to Wyre Forest District Council as dividend payments continue to be received by the authority.

Council leader Councillor John Campion announced the 12th payment from the Heritable Bank had now been forwarded. It is the latest instalment of the £1 million invested in the bank which was affected by the collapse of 2008. The payment was reported by Councillor Campion at a meeting of the council last week.

More than £700,000 of the investment has now been recovered by the authority and regular dividend payments will continue. The amount invested in the Heritable was part of a £9m investment in three banks. The others were Landsbanki and Kaupthing, Singer and Friedlander.

The council has already received two dividend payments totalling more than £1.2m in relation to the £3m invested in Landsbanki. The authority, along with other groups which had money invested in Landsbanki, won a legal fight to ensure they were at the front of the queue to be repaid.

Councillor Campion said more payments were anticipated and the estimate for the overall return exceeded the 95 to 98 per cent previously expected.

"We have now received almost 63 per cent of the total outstanding and dividend payments continue to be received," he added.

Bonfire pallets needed

TRADERS are being asked to help supply wooden pallets for the annual Himley Park bonfire night.

Around 25,000 people visit the bonfire and fireworks extravaganza in the grounds of Himley Hall each year. The centrepiece for the event, which takes place on November 3 this year, is the towering bonfire. Companies wishing to dispose of their pallets and are able to deliver can call 01384 817817.

Design is flagged up



Maisie Cumming and Phoebe Cresswell, both aged 13, with the new Kingswinford Flag they have designed

Students flew the flag for Kingswinford after about 160 at The Kingswinford School submitted designs for a new one.

It has been officially recognised as the UK Flag Institute's Register for Kingswinford after a project launched by ward Councillor Dave Tyler, a former pupil. It took two years for designs to be whittled down and ratification of the winning entry, by Phoebe Cresswell and Maisie Cumming, both 13, and now in Year 9.

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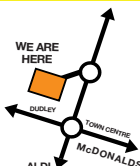
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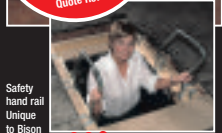
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NEWS

Gallery campaigners vow to crank up their battle

CAMPAIGNERS branded cost-cutting plans to move Kidderminster Library's gallery and grand piano "civic vandalism" - and vowed to step up their fight.

Worcestershire County Council wants to create offices for around 130 workers at the library. It had proposed scrapping the gallery on the second floor to make way for the staff.

But when the move was first announced four months ago, arts and music groups in the town protested, prompting the council to put the plans on hold.

After a public consultation council chiefs revealed their preferred option for the site is to convert the existing gallery into offices, and create a smaller gallery with meeting rooms on the first floor instead.

The Steinway grand piano would be moved to the Corn Exchange next to the town hall.

Campaigners, the Friends of Kidderminster Library's Gallery, had collected a 600-name petition. Campaigner Heather Wastie said today: "We are gobsmacked. We have spent a long time getting a mandate together and being recognised as a group and the council came to our meeting and told us they were moving the gallery."

"It seems like a fait accompli and we think the consultation has been really badly done."

The council has said 65 per cent of people backed these plans during the consultation. But campaigners said only 83 people took part. The council will now apply for planning permission for the work.

Sophie heads for finals



Sophie Harris, 13, is in the regional final of the Open Mic UK contest

A SCHOOLGIRL has reached the regional finals of a national singing competition.

Sophie Harris, aged 13, from Pensnett, was picked out of 200 under 16s to make the Open Mic UK 2012 Regional Final in Birmingham.

The Kingswinford School pupil got through the competition's first audition with her own song called News

Flash. She will now face 20 other youngsters at the regional final in a bid to make it to the national final at the O2 arena early next year.

Meanwhile, Sophie has been wasting no time chasing other avenues toward her dream of stardom by applying for Britain's Got Talent and appearing on YouTube.

Crisis team wins award

A TEAM of volunteers helping victims and families in times of emergency in Worcester-shire has won a prestigious, national award.

The Worcestershire Crisis Support Team picked up Emergency Planning Initiative of the Year 2012. The group is made up of volunteers who work alongside police family liaison officers.

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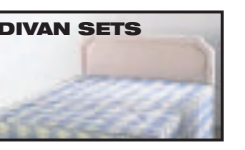
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Improvers: Tues 8th Jan. 19.00-21.00, 11 wks. £56.80 #
Intermediates: Mon 7th Jan. 19.00-21.00, 11 wks. £56.80 #

FRENCH

New Beginners course starts: Thurs. 8th Nov. 6wks. £31.00 #

CREATIVE WRITING Mon. 29th Oct. OR Mon 14th Jan. 19.00-21.00. Both 5 wks. £25.80 #

INTRO TO SIGN LANGUAGE

Mon. 29th Oct. 19.00-21.00, 10 wks. £51.60 #

AN INTRODUCTION TO FAMILY HISTORY

Mon 29th Oct. 14.30-16.30 OR Tues 15th Jan 9.30-11.30 OR Thurs. 1st Nov. 19.00-21.00. Both 5 wks. £36.40 #

CONTINUING FAMILY HISTORY

Mon 14th Jan. 14.30-16.30 5 wks. £36.40 #

CREATE YOUR OWN WEBSITE

Tues 30th Oct 9.30-11.30 OR Thurs 1st Nov. 19.00-21.00. Both 7 wks £51.00 #

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Must have completed 'Create your own website course' Wed 16th Jan 14.30-16.30 OR Thurs 17th Jan 19.00-21.00. 3 wks £21.90 #

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Thurs 10th Jan. 9.30- 12.00, 11 wks. £71.00 #
Thurs 10th Jan. 13.30- 15.30, 11 wks. £56.75 #

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BLACK COUNTRY CRAFTS

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Mon. 29th Oct. 9.30-11.30 OR Thurs 22nd Nov 19.00-21.00 . OR Both 3 wks. £21.90 #

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INDIAN HEAD MASSAGE

Tues. 6th Nov. OR Tues 12th Feb. 19.00-21.00. Both 3 wks. £21.90 #

STRESS MANAGEMENT

Thurs. 1st Nov. 19.00-21.00 OR Thurs 8th Nov. 9.30-11.30. All 3 wks. £21.90 #

MEDITATION

Thurs 22nd Nov 19.00-20.30 4 wks. £21.90 #

PILATES

Beginners: Thurs 10th Jan 18.00-19.00, 11 wks. £33.35 #
Beginners: Fri 11th Jan. 10.00-11.00, 10 wks. £30.35 #
Improvers: Tues 8th Jan. 19.00-20.00, 11 wks. £33.35
Improvers: Wed 9th Jan. 18.00-19.00, 11 wks. £33.35
Improvers: Thurs 10th Jan. 19.05-20.05, 11 wks. £33.35
Improvers: Thurs 10th Jan. 20.10-21.10, 11 wks. £33.35

LEGS, BUMS & TUMS

Tues 8th Jan. 20.05-21.05, 11 wks. £33.35

BALLROOM and LATIN AMERICAN DANCING

All classes start Mon. 7th Jan. for 11 wks. Beginners 18.30-19.30, £36.10. Improvers/ Intermediates 19.30-20.45, £45.10

ADULT SWIMMING LESSONS

Courses begin Mon 7th Jan. for 11 wks. Fee £33.40.
Beginners: 19.00-19.45. Improvers: 19.45-20.30.
Intermediates: 20.30-21.15

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ADULT SWIMMING: Mon. 11.50-12.35, Tues. 19.00-20.00 OR Thurs. 19.00-20.15. All £2.60

AQUAFIT:

Fri. 11.50-12.35 £2.60. Wed. 19.00-20.00 OR Sun. 9.00-10.00. Both £3.70

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Intermediates: Thurs 10th Jan.. 17.45-18.45. 11 wks. £47.85



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NEWS

Public to have a say over hospital parking charges

STAFF and residents are to be asked for their views on proposals to change the car parking charges at Kidderminster Hospital.

Proposals to replace pay and display machines at the site with a barrier and pay kiosk system have already been drawn up by Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust. Officials have now agreed the scheme will go to consultation before a final decision is made on the plans. If the scheme goes ahead, the trust aims to have the changes in place by January.

No final decision has yet been made on the level of charges. This will be discussed following the period of consultation.

At the moment car parking charges are the same at Kidderminster Hospital, Worcester-shire Royal Hospital and the Alexandra Hospital, in Redditch.

But patients have asked for a new system to be put in place with charges made on an hourly basis. Visitors presently have to pay £3 for a two-hour stay, £4.50 for up to four hours, £6 for six hours and £7.50 for six to 24 hours. The first 20 minutes is free.

But patients have said they want a new system where they have to pay a smaller amount for visits of more than 20 minutes but less than two hours.

They were discussed at a meeting of the trust's board. Trust spokesman Laura Wedekind said: "Car park charges are currently the same across all three hospital sites but patients have asked for a fairer system with charges made on an hourly basis."

Blankets prove defective

ALMOST a third of electric blankets checked at a safety testing session at Bewdley fire station were found to be defective. People took along their blankets to an event organised by the fire service and Age UK Wyre Forest recently.

Community safety adviser Caroline Webster said: "We tested 55 blankets in total, and 17 of these failed the safety checks."

Music marathon for cash



Front, John Fowell, centre, seated, Jenny Morgan and top, from left, Steve Harper, Adelle Morgan, Sarah Houghton, Les Middleton, and Sue Towler

WEST End music filled the air in one corner of Sedgley as a 12-hour singathon took place to raise money for an operatic society.

Around 20 people were in fine tune when they took part in the mission in a music room at a home in Northway. From 11am to 11pm, the participants, of all ages, sang a

variety of songs non-stop with the help for four pianists. It is hoped the event has raised more than £1,000 for the Bilton Operatic Company.

The group needs money to put on a show at The Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton in November. The 30-strong group will put on a musical called Hello Dolly.

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NEWS

Little Dahl-ings book in for fun



Pupils and staff from Dudley Wood Primary as characters from the Roald Dahl series of children's books. CHILDREN and teachers at a Dudley primary school dressed up as Roald Dahl book characters for charity.

More than 400 children and staff at Dudley Wood Primary School came into class as their favourite characters created by the famous author. From the BFG, to grandma Jo from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, and The Witches, the characters were all brought to life for the day. It rounded off a week when the children had been studying the author and his life.

The school also raised just over £400 for Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity.

Crossings may be the answer in rat run row

CROSSINGS could finally be built on a rat run used by motorists avoiding a busy junction Dudley after years of complaints from residents.

Oakham Road, which stretches through Dudley and Tividale, became clogged with traffic when work to remove the Burnt Tree island started in 2009. But since the new junction was opened last year drivers are still using the route and council bosses admit traffic has not reduced as much as they would have expected and are now investigating crossing plans.

Locals had called for pedestrian crossings to be built as they claimed their lives were being put at risk by motorists using the road as a rat run. However, in February Dudley Council said the road "did not meet criteria" for new crossings to

be built. But at a meeting recently it was revealed the authority is now working on new proposals to improve safety on the route – and that work could start in March.

Ward councillor and deputy council leader Shaukat Ali told Central Dudley Area Committee it was hoped there would be at least two "safe crossing points". This could mean a central refuge being built, or even a zebra crossing, he said.

He added: "We are looking at introducing some safe crossing points as it is quite difficult to cross on some parts of the road."

Food academy in pipeline at HP

WORK on a £6 million food academy on the former site of the HP sauce factory in Birmingham can begin in less than six months, the boss of the Sandwell firm behind the scheme has said.

East End Foods chairman Tony Deep Wouhra wants to start construction in February but is waiting for the nod from the Department of Education.

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NEWS

New meetings aiming to be more relaxed affairs

AREA committee meetings in Dudley will be scrapped and replaced with "community forums" under new plans revealed by council bosses.

The proposals will see nine new forums set up with the aim of making it easier for people to report and discuss issues with the council.

Area committee meetings are held in Brierley Hill, Halesowen, Stourbridge and Central and North Dudley. But council bosses say they are too formal and do not give people the chance to discuss concerns.

Councillor David Sparks, leader of Dudley Council, said: "The area committees had become too bureaucratic and formal which puts people off from coming along and defeats the purpose."

"This is about giving public meetings back to the public, by making them simpler and more accessible, where the public attending will set the agenda by the issues they raise."

"The new forums will focus more on local issues and those things that matter to the people living there."

"As a result, every forum will be different as it needs to reflect the specific communities we are working with and the different issues that affect those communities."

The proposals were unveiled at last week's Central Dudley Area Committee, which could be the last one before the new system is introduced. Councillor Dave Tyler, who has led the review, told the meeting: "We want more members of the public than councillors."

Firms wanted for event

BUSINESSES and community groups are being asked to let youngsters shadow their workers for a day as part of a new event.

Worcestershire's Youth Cabinet is looking for jobs for children and young people on Children's Commissioner's Takeover Day. This year's event, on November 23. Call 01905 775773 to find out more.

Running up charity cash



Paul Hammond, Kathryn Morgan and Brian Wright, all from Wolverhampton and Bilston Running Club

HUNDREDS of runners took part in a village fun run which raised £4,000 for charity.

Fortunately the rain held off for the sixth annual Kinver Rotary Club.

A total of 270 runners set off on the 10km road race from Brindley Primary School, with most returning within the hour.

About 25 also had a go at the family 2km race around the school grounds, which started at the same time from the Potters Cross venue.

Cheered on by crowds and stewards along the way, Paul Hammond, of Wolverhampton and Bilston Running Club, finished first in just under 35 minutes. Crossing the finishing line 20 seconds later was Lee Slater, of Dudley Stourbridge Harriers. The unemployed 29-year-old, of Swanfield Road, Wordsley, said: "The race began with an uphill 5km which knocked it out of you."



Sarah Gordon-Smith, left, Claire Truscott and Grahame Smith ready for the 10km Road Race

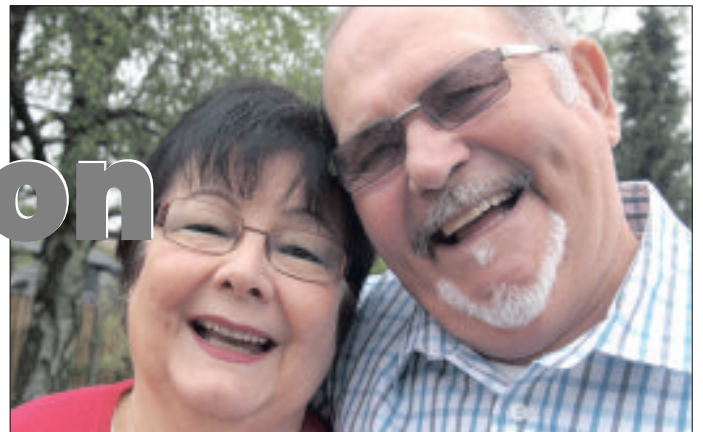
First for the women was Kathryn Morgan, also of Wolverhampton and Bilston Running Club. She finished the race in just under 45 minutes.

The money raised will go to

Advertisement

Clive's transformation

A working union between two dental professionals is helping to bring about life-changing outcomes. Retired sales director Clive, right, with wife Margaret, was terrified of dentists. Read why now he's recommending his friends book in to see them.



A Navy nightmare is finally overcome by the power of creative dentistry

Suction solution

A CUTTING-EDGE development to help resolve the stability problems faced by thousands of denture wearers is now available.

Denturist Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS(Eng) says the invention has the potential to improve the life quality of those experiencing long-term problems with ill-fitting teeth. The Ultra Suction teeth are held in place by tiny valve-operated suction devices.

All on 4 now here

ONE of the most advanced restorative options for denture wearers is available in Wolverhampton and Dudley. An implant system called All on 4 offers a permanently retained full arch of teeth in a day. ☐ Call us for more details.

Traditional options

THE work of the Denture Clinic has found satisfied customers from as far away as Spain. Its hand-crafted dentures, made in laboratories on the premises, are known for their natural look. Clinic principal Steven Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng), says: "I remain passionate about resolving denture problems and for many, quality, traditional dentures can bring about hugely effective results."

CLIVE was so afraid of the dentist he plucked up all of his courage and begged him to extract all of his teeth so that he'd never have problems ever again.

That was more than 20 years ago, but what the retired sales director didn't know was that his tooth troubles were far from over.

Following the extractions dentures were fitted and he no problems for a few years. It was a welcome break from the pain he had experienced and the catalogue of dental disasters he had endured.

But the natural ageing process began to take its toll and Clive experienced stability problems with the lower denture as his gums receded. For five years he endured the embarrassment of dentures,

sore spots on his gums and denying himself some of his favourite foods. "It took real determination to face up to the problem and the prospect of more dental work."

Clive recalls his first dental nightmare: Stationed at Malta while in the Royal Navy, he suddenly had raging toothache the night before he was due to play in a football match.

"I'd been drinking to dull the pain but as soon as I was back on board the duty dentists was summoned. He'd been drinking too and when he injected me with the anaesthetic he broke the needle."

"I eventually had to have an X-ray so he could find where the needle was. That was me finished. I'd do anything to avoid the dentist from there on."

In recent years Clive has had four den-

ture relines to help the stability issues, but none provided a long-term solution. Flashing his new smile and laughing heartily, Clive adds: "Things were so bad that if I turned to the right my teeth would still be facing forward."

"I can't stress how big a deal it was for me to get things sorted. I was terrified, so when I saw a piece in the paper about Steven Burchell and suction denture technology, I agreed to see him."

Clive's gum erosion was too severe for the suction system to work effectively and he decided to have implant-retained dentures. He was referred by Mr Burchell Dip CDT RCS (Eng), whose Denture Clinic is based at the Parkdale Dental Clinic in Tetterhall Road, Wolverhampton, and North Street, Dudley, to implantologist Mr

Jonathon Pugh BDS MSc. Mr Pugh, principal of the Parkdale practice, carried out the surgery and the prosthetics were hand-crafted by Mr Burchell.

Clive recalls the procedure. "I was dreading it, but all I felt was a sensation that Mr Pugh was rubbing my gums." Clive's wife, Margaret, adds: "It's true! I was allowed to sit in with Clive. We were both treated excellently."

Since having the implant-retained dentures, Clive has been able to bite into crispy apples and indulge himself with pork crackling. "I feel comfortable and confident, it's the best money I've ever spent and have recommended both Steve and Jon to friends."

Denture Clinic

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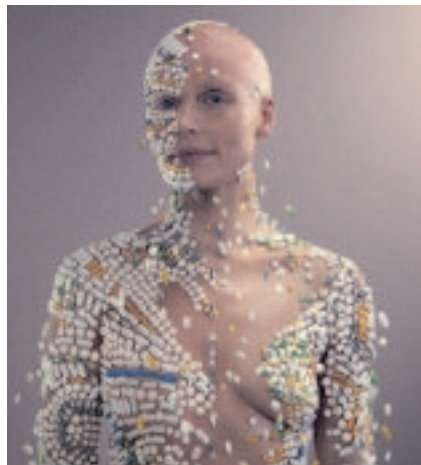
Parkdale Dental Clinic
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Parkdale Dental Clinic

breast cancer care

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When breast cancer and its treatment overshadow everything, we see the woman underneath. Breast Cancer Care is the only UK-wide charity dedicated to providing emotional and practical support for anyone affected by breast cancer. We campaign for better support and care and promote the importance of early detection, involving people with breast cancer in all that we do.

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- we answered more than 13,000 calls to our Helpline and more than 800 Ask the Nurse email queries
- we reached 2,348 people with our breast awareness talks
- 4,000 people used our face-to-face or other specialist services.

The five-point code

Whatever your age, size or shape it's important to take care of your breasts. And remember, although it's rare, men can also get breast cancer so they need to be breast aware too. Being breast aware is easy- just follow these five simple steps.

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2. Know what to look and feel for.
3. Look and feel.
4. Tell your GP about any changes straightaway.
5. Go for breast screening when invited.

Department of Health 2009

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(T&C's below)

JANICE 40, 5ft 5ins, medium build, brown eyes, likes music, cooking, cosy nights in/out, seeks similar male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397407 ☺

LOUISE 43, 5ft 5ins, medium build, GSOH, kind, caring, honest, genuine, loving, WLTm male, 43-55 with similar qualities for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376165 ☺

MANDY 36, size 10, looking for relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360317 ☺

ALICIA 19yr old green eyed female, very attractive, slim, long hair, independent, looking for fun with mature male, no time wasters. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 390059 ☺

I'M Julie 36yrs old, attractive, fit, blonde, solvent with OHAC seeking man to spoil and enjoy good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395051 ☺

BLONDE attractive educated lady 50, young minded, seeks professional tall male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391818 ☺

BIG bubbly black female, single mum, looking for male for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392501 ☺

SUSIE gorgeously feminine and sensual, loves lazy summer days, misses male companionship WLTm someone with sense of adventure and lust for life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394117 ☺

LOUISE youthful looking female looking for spontaneous male to put some love and lust back into life. Call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392491 ☺

HOME alone with no one to call my own! 38yr old girl looking for fun. Can travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363277 ☺

JOY 36 petite medium build, blue eyes, loves romantic walks, meals in/out, WLTm male 30-45 for meets. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386629 ☺

CHRIS attractive slim sophisticated redhead, seeking male 30-50's to relax with and get to know. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392401 ☺

LOUISE 35, loves meals out, wltm tallish, considerate mature male who is not frightened to express themselves and enjoy life. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395727 ☺

MICHELLE attractive 30's female, blonde, leggy and very much single, seeking quality company, hopefully more with nice romantic male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395717 ☺

CAROLINE 42yrs, slim attractive blonde. Varied interests and solvent. WLTm honest male of any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395675 ☺

CAROLINE attractive, kind, caring, 43, seeking kind, caring male for LTR, 45-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396837 ☺

NATASHA single professional 39yr old brunette looking for fun and friendship with genuine guy, 30-50yrs. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395719 ☺

CARLA 41, brown hair/eyes, 5ft 2ins, loving, seeking male who likes walks, cinema and romantic meals. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396127 ☺

HI I'm Marilyn a blue eyed beauty. Call me if you have a happy outlook and are seeking some fun. Age/looks unimportant. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395665 ☺

CATHY is a slim attractive lady with an open minded attitude to life, she WLTm a man of any age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395657 ☺

61YR old lady 5ft 2ins, medium build, long dark hair, smoker, seeks smart gent who wants to get out and about for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396409 ☺

39YR old single female, hurt in past, animal lover, likes most things, seeking genuine male for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386887 ☺

CLARE good looking, beautiful blonde, seeks male for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377409 ☺

SAMANTHA pretty brunette, very busty 36, intelligent, independent with a really lust for life, seeks big hearted stocky male/dad. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395035 ☺

YVONNE lonely 32yr old single mum of one, slim, brown hair, WLTm discreet male for mutual attention without complications. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395027 ☺

STACEY young 20yr old looking for fun. Call me to find out more. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382091 ☺

JANE 46, single mum, N/S, romantic, likes dancing, nights out, music, seeking male, 40-50 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 380591 ☺

CURVY red haired female, been hurt in the past seeks older male to buy her flowers and mend her broken heart. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 377432 ☺

FUN loving lady, outgoing, honest, caring, likes socialising, seeks older male, 50-70. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383325 ☺

LADY widow, 58, slim, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks smart, intelligent, easygoing man with GSOH who enjoys conversations, days out, short breaks, meals out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387247 ☺

SALLY slim attractive feisty redhead, intelligent, easygoing, WLTm similar male for friendship and more, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393469 ☺

WIDOW 70, genuine, kind, caring, laidback, seeking male for friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387013 ☺

EASYGOING down to earth female, likes cooking, exploring new things in life, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386893 ☺

LADY young 60, outgoing, friendly, smart, likes cinema, shopping, meals out, seeks similar female friends for days out and evenings. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387117 ☺

PAULINE attractive petite nurse, loves evenings in/out, looking for honest male to share loving friendship and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 379535 ☺

SARAH 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979 ☺

KAREN witty female who loves to laugh, WLTm similar male to share interests, romance, cosy nights in and more. Pls call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393125 ☺

CARING lady, 52, brown hair/eyes, seeks male, 30-60 for socialising, meals out, cinema, music, sports and having a laugh. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392883 ☺

FARMER'S granddaughter, OHAC, stunningly attractive, respectable, sincere, WLTm countryman/bachelor, 48-62, 5ft 9ins plus, genuine, uncomplicated with GSOH and TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387204 ☺

BUBBLY female, 42, young at heart, honest, caring, likes outdoors, cinema, theatre, meals out, seeks likeminded male/soul mate, 40-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 357919 ☺

42YR old Sagittarian 5ft 7ins, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks genuine, caring guy interested in films, meals out, country walks, gardening and travel, 45-55. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 358399 ☺

JESSIE single mum 24 looking for her Mr Right for equally respectful relationship, hopefully blossoming into love. Single dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382087 ☺

SUE 5ft 2ins female, brown hair/eyes, loving, likes music, socialising, films, good times, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393223 ☺

VICKY honest caring female 33yrs, GSOH, loves meals in/out, travel, cinema, WLTm someone to enjoy nice things in life with and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383911 ☺

DENISE tall leggy good looking single mum, easygoing, enjoys nights in/out, animals, WLTm tall male for fun times possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391873 ☺

JENNY blue eyed cuddly independent female, loves countryside, animals, cooking, WLTm older male to spoil and look after. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378481 ☺

MAUREEN seeks male 32-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 323543 ☺

SLIM professional, attractive, amiable lady, seeks genuine, articulate, professional gent, 55 plus with GSOH, who enjoys the good things in life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386615 ☺

JAN lonely divorced female with older children looking for male for mature/adult companionship without ties. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394663 ☺

SARAH nice looking blue-eyed slim brunette, WLTm similar male to enjoy affectionate relationship leading to fr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394575 ☺

MADDIE extremely passionate female 37, seeks reliable male to enjoy the finer things in life and tactile relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394565 ☺

PAULINE divorced female on the wrong side of 40 looking for adult fun with easygoing highly driven man if you get my drift? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394463 ☺

SLIM male, seeks lady 35-45, size 12-18, GSOH for friendship, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394591 ☺

ANNA 29yr old nurse, 6ft curvy auburn beauty, likes cosy nights in, genuinely seeking older, well built male to look after, 40-69yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375139 ☺

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, tactile, no ties, WLTm kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378483 ☺

LYNN 37 single mum, petite slim and very pretty, seeking caring funny guy to be with and become my Mr Wonderful. Dads welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386633 ☺

MADLINE 5ft black seeks male 26-41 with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375789 ☺

MORAG 21yr old attractive dark haired student nurse, new to area and very lonely seeks mature male for mutual companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 391087 ☺

BLONDE tanned female, trendy, 46, GSOH, likes walks, pubs, nights in, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384852 ☺

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651 ☺

ATTRACTIVE glamorous, black female, young 44, seeks male for friendship/dating and LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 339799 ☺

MARIA 38, blonde, 5ft 5ins, caring, likes nights in/out, seeks caring male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 329319 ☺

NATALIE 30, attractive, size 12, black, seeking male for romantic fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 387753 ☺

SINGLE mum, 36, 2 children, seeks fun loving male with GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382595 ☺

GENUINE female, 36, brunette, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, fun, outgoing, adventurous, GSOH, looking for tall, honest, genuine male for good companion, dates and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 386327 ☺

SHAPELY attractive, light skinned black female, 39, seeks attractive, fit, male, 30's, builder type, tanned, rugged for relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 231152 ☺

SLIM attractive, self-sufficient lady, 44, GSOH, seeks special male, 35-50 to share evening in/out, theatre, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 351813 ☺

FEMALE kind, giving, thoughtful, sensitive, seeks lifetime friend to love and understand me for who I am. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 350397 ☺

FRIENDLY black female, attractive, 46, single mum, professional, seeks attractive, solvent, trendy, professional, genuine male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 349865 ☺

HELEN 34yr old single mum slim intelligent, seeks nice male for adult companionship with good potential for a great relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394121 ☺

PATRICIA 5ft 5ins, red hair, blue eyes, likes nights out, meals, clubs, seeking nice young man who is kind, generous to look after me. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378207 ☺

ATTRACTIVE slim blonde, 45, seeks honest, caring, genuine male, 45-55 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 349651 ☺

OUTGOING sociable young female, 33, average looks, likes pubs, clubs, bowling, cinema, seeks gent, 33-45. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 362769 ☺

FEMALE likes meals out, cinema, nights in, seeks male for fun and friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 361871 ☺

72YR old widower, smart, likes travel, conversation, dancing, cooking, missing that special man in her life who is easygoing and N/S. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 349265 ☺

ATTRACTIVE Tall, black female, 51, 6ft, slim-medium build, kind, honest, considerate, own home, seeks genuine, tall, faithful, 6ft plus male, 45-70 with own home for serious relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 349211 ☺

SINGLE MEN

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(T&C's below)

MALE 50, medium build, likes socialising, nights out, clubs, seeks female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397355 ☺

JOHN 44, seeks black/Asian female, 25-65 for daytime/evening meets, looks/size unimportant. Can travel only. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397339 ☺

ATTRACTIVE male, 55, seeks older female, 50-70 for close, adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397189 ☺

STRICTLY come dancing. Male 52, trendy, honest, caring, down to earth, fun loving, seeks petite lady, 45-54. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397163 ☺

JIMMY 53 good looking, fit, genuine, honest, very loving and looking for the same in a woman. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 397157 ☺

GENUINE male, 43, brown eyes, 5ft 10ins, outgoing, adventurous, seeks slim-average build female, 30-40. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396289 ☺

A really nice divorced gent, late 40's, 6ft 1ins, fair hair, kind, caring, romantic, GSOH, seeks lady for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392474 ☺

IAN 44 single dad, loving, caring, honest, seeks similar female, 30-45 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392874 ☺

WEST Midlands single guy 60, strong, WLTm affectionate lady, your place or mine for uncommitted enjoyment. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396807 ☺

BRIAN 60's, ordinary man, strong needs, seeks affectionate lady for close friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396765 ☺

JOE 45, GSOH, attractive, medical professional, seeks female for daytime fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396671 ☺

SINGLE dad, 39, on a budget, seeking an outgoing, fun female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393012 ☺

42YR old single dad, nice looking, genuine, honest, seeking special female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396611 ☺

HEREFORD male, 46, looking for single lady, slim, attractive, adventurous for fun and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396705 ☺

32YR old slim, dark haired male, adventurous, creative, likes music, walks, cycling, photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753 ☺

39YR old single dad, likes cosy nights in, seeks single, slim lady for fun relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396061 ☺

CLIVE 46, seeking hot chick for plenty of action. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392772 ☺

JOSEPH 40 tall, GSOH, seeks female, 26-48 for fun and relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394103 ☺

MATURE gent, honest, sincere WLTm mature lady, 70-80 for long term friendship, honesty more important than looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392551 ☺

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeks big beautiful woman for fun and games. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393737 ☺

MALE 70's widow, kind, honest, caring, likes socialising, holidays, nights in/out, seeks loving female for respectful, caring relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393559 ☺

GOOD looking 48yr old male, GSOH, honest, caring, loyal, hurt in past, looking for loving female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 394159 ☺

PROFESSIONAL male, 42, hurt in past, seeks female, 32-40. Single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392769 ☺

NAUGHTY 40 something, tall, smart, GSOH, seeks lady for rainy days and Sundays. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392665 ☺

TOM 62, fit, likes tennis, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392659 ☺

MALE 38, seeks female, any age for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392645 ☺

GOOD looking 39yr old male, likes pubs, music, walks, swimming, seeks nice female. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392943 ☺

51YR old male, 6ft, dark hair, single parent, likes most things, sports, seeks slim, honest, caring female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392933 ☺

DAVE 47, well built, divorced, 2 children, WLTm lady of similar age for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393789 ☺

MALE 6ft, slim, easy going, kind, caring, seeks female, 70-79 for friendship, days out, walks and holidays. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395447 ☺

STEVE 59, seeks attractive lady for discreet daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395397 ☺

PETE 54, GSOH, loving, loyal, likes walks, animals, seeks lady for meals out, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392934 ☺

46YR old Telford male, likes walks, motor bikes, meals out, seeking special lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396393 ☺

MIKE 47, 6ft, easygoing, kind, considerate, seeks female, 25-45 for friendship and outdoor activities. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396367 ☺

GAY SINGLES

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to meet or chat to other men, look no further. TXT: GAY247 to 65125

www.localgaydate.co.uk

MALE 34, attractive, 5ft 10ins, blue eyes, blond hair, seeks slim male for fun relationship. Any area, can travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 311892 ☺

A classic close to perfection

Swan Lake, Birmingham Hippodrome
A CLOSE to perfect production by Birmingham Royal Ballet of the best known of all ballet works was an absolute treat.

There was no tinkering with the classic ingredients, this was Peter Wright's 1981 choreography derived from late 19th century work of Ivanov and Petipa.

Costumes

The sumptuous Eastern European costumes matched the lush romanticism of Tchaikovsky's music, played with vigour by the Royal Ballet Sinfonia.

On Saturday Yorkshire ballerina Natasha

Oughtred, almost as expressive with her eyes as her feet, danced the dual role of Odette/Odile, and the powerful Matthew Lawrence was her prince. Their energy was thrilling. Their control awesome.

The famous scene which begins act IV, in which 'swans' rise from the misty lake, drew an appreciative gasp from the audience.

Let other productions break barriers – keep this production preserved like a listed monument for future generations.

It bodes well for a magical Cinderella from the company at the Hippodrome from November 21.

Leon Burakowski

REVIEWS

Lots of laughs on a night out with Bouncers

Bouncers, Wolverhampton Grand
THERE were plenty of laugh out loud moments with Bouncers at the Grand Theatre.

This riot of a show injects a good mix of humour, energy and satire. The clubbing scene of any city is told from three perspectives – the bouncers, girls celebrating a 21st birthday and a group of young men on a lads' night out.

There were outstanding performances from Ace Bhatti, Don Gilet, William Ilkley and Ian Reddington who effortlessly played all the characters. Their transformation into female characters at the hairdressers, later dancing round their handbags in the club, brought the house down.

Les Jowett

Sensational 60s

The Sensational 60s Experience, Wolverhampton Grand
SILVER-haired teenagers packed the Grand, eager to relive their youth.

Changes to the original line ups of the groups didn't deter from the brilliant music. This included The Tremeloes with Silence is Golden, Herman's Hermits with I'm Into Something Good, Union Gap's Young Girl and the Ivy League's Tossing and Turning.

The bands converged for a rock 'n' roll finale that brought everyone onto their feet.

Les Jowett

Superstar a revelation

Jesus Christ Superstar, NIA, Birmingham

MORE than 40 years since it was created by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, the showbiz lord can be satisfied that his rock opera Jesus Christ Superstar finally got the spectacular arena treatment in the UK he first envisaged when aged in his 20s.

In his programme notes, Lloyd Webber said he was always as much into Led Zeppelin as Rodgers and Hammerstein and it showed in this loud, brash and passionate production.

The story of Christ's betrayal, trial and crucifixion was updated to the 21st century, with Jesus and his disciples amid anti-capitalist protesters and rioters.

Former Radio 1 DJ Chris Moyles had a five minute cameo in a red crushed-velvet suit but nearly stole the show as King Herod, the TV quiz host of 'Lord or Fraud'. His ragtime number included one of Rice's best lines – "prove to me that you're no fool, walk across my swimming pool."



Ben Forster and former Spice Girl Melanie C in Jesus Christ Superstar

Melanie C played a tattooed Mary Magdalene and made I Don't Know How To Love Him her own. Alex Hanson added gravitas as Pontious Pilate, a slick lawyer who runs out of patience with Jesus and the squabbling Jews.

In the first act TV talent show winner Ben Forster, as Jesus, was overshadowed by Tim Minchin's mercurial, thrilling portrayal of Judas. The Australian singer-songwriter is known as a comedian and co-creator of

West End hit Matilda but he brought rock star glamour and utter conviction to the role of Judas. The dreadlocked apostle rails against God for using him and his friend Jesus as pawns in his plan before a chilling realistic suicide by hanging.

It made Forster raise his game. Something clicked in the garden of Gethsemane and his voice and charisma burst through like a dam breaking.

Powerful

When a crown of thorns was thrust upon his head and his bloody body raised aloft on a lighting rig crucifix, as he screamed with anguish, it was one of the most powerful scenes I have seen on stage. It left the audience stunned, until thunderous applause and people rose from their seats in a standing ovation.

I had previously thought of Jesus Christ Superstar as a dated oddity from the hippy era. So this impressive production was nothing short of a revelation.

Leon Burakowski

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What's On! Halesowen

Charity ballroom dance at centre

A CHARITY sequence and ballroom dancing event is being staged in Halesowen.

The session will be accompanied by music from the orchestral keyboards of Stephen Gill.

It will take place at Lutley Community Centre, Brookwillow Road, on Saturday, October 20 from 7.30pm to 11pm.

It will raise cash for the Halesowen branch for Mary Stevens Hospice.

Tickets, priced at £5, are available by calling 0121 5508631.

Flashy dancing at Town Hall venue

STOURBRIDGE Amateur Operatic Society is staging its version of hit film Flashdance on October 15.

The show set in Pittsburgh, tells the story of a young welder called Alex who dreams of winning a place at a top dance academy.

It will be staged at Stourbridge Town Hall starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are priced between £12.50 and £16.50.

To book tickets call Lorraine Lovett 07504 301767.

Charity night

A CHARITY night will raise money for Leukaemia Care UK on Saturday at Dudley Sports and Social Club.

The night starts at 7pm and includes a raffle. For tickets call Mr McCarthy on 07960985014.

Ayckbourn's chilling ghost story will haunt the Grand

A PLAY that theatre-goers have described as the most chilling ghost story on stage since *The Woman in Black* is coming to Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre next week.

Haunting Julia, by Sir Alan Ayckbourn, tells of the strange happenings that occur 12 years after the death of teenager Julia, a musical prodigy who died from an overdose.

Her grieving father, who has created a shrine to his dead daughter, brings in Julia's former boyfriend and a psychic to investigate.

Supernatural

Popular playwright Ayckbourn is best known for his comedies but this tense supernatural thriller, where any laughter tends to be of the nervous kind, has become increasingly popular due to recent revivals.

The four-hander play features TV actor Duncan Preston, of Dinnerladies and Emmerdale, as the father.

Stage and TV veteran Richard O'Callaghan, who had the lead role in two Carry On films, plays the psychic. The boyfriend is played by Joe McFadden, a familiar TV face from Heartbeat (as PC Joe Mason) and Cranford (as Dr Marshland).

Haunting Julia is staged at the Grand from Monday to Saturday, October 15-20.



The cast of Dolly Parton's 9 To 5 The Musical, from left, Amy Lennox, Jackie Clune, Ben Richards, Natalie Casey and Bonnie Langford

Star cast sign up for 9 To 5 job

A STAR-STUDED cast has been announced for Dolly Parton's 9 To 5: The Musical, this year's big Christmas time show at the New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham.

Playing Doralee, the role that made Dolly a movie star in the original 1980 film version, will be Amy Lennox. She has been playing Elle Woods in the West End production of Legally Blonde and local theatre-goers may remember her in the lead role of Birmingham Rep's The Secret Garden.

In the story about female office workers who get revenge on a sexist male boss, the boss will be played by West End leading man and former The Bill actor Ben Richards. Also appearing will be Bonnie Langford, who earlier this year starred in Spamalot at the Alex; Two Pints of Lager... actress Natalie Casey; also actress and comic Jackie Clune.

The show is staged from December 17 to January 5.

Time for nostalgia with a knees-up

DUDLEY Town Hall will be having a knees-up with the Good Old Days of Music Hall and Variety.

The show is part of the popular monthly matinees which focus on musicals, nostalgia and old time music hall.

The show on October 16 is headlined by TV comic, panto favourite and Crackjack presenter Stu Francis alongside singers, comedians, speciality acts and a live band performing old favourites and lots of opportunity to sing-a-long.

Tickets for the 2pm show cost £11.

Tribute to Jacko promises a thriller

MICHAEL Jackson fans are promised a thriller of a night with a tribute event dedicated to the late superstar.

And visitors got a sneak peek at Ben Bowman's show as he visited Dudley ahead of his performance in the town.

He will be bringing his show, called Ben: Michael Jackson Tribute Concert, to Dudley Town Hall on October 25.

Wedding fair day

A WEDDING fair is being held in Halesowen on Sunday.

The event will be at Benjamins, Birmingham Street, from 11am to 4pm.

There will be models showing off the bridal wear on a cat walk from noon to 2pm.

For details, call Julia on 07792 017109.

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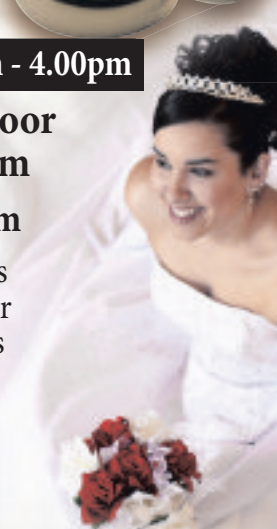
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What's On!

SATURDAY'S TV 13.10.12

CHOICE



Paddy McGuinness

Take Me Out ITV1, 7.05pm

Paddy McGuinness must have the best job in telly – he spends his time surrounded by beautiful women. However, there's just one downside to his job – all the ladies are off limits and reserved for the men he has lined up for them. Oh, and the fact that he's married probably wouldn't take him very far either. Mr McGuinness returns tonight with yet more ever-hopeful men, aiming to win the heart of one of the 30 women, and whisk them off on a date. Thrown into the mix this week are a pair of Cambridge twins hoping to nab a double date, a yoga instructor and a farmer.

BBC1

7.30 Breakfast. 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live. 11.30 Nigellissima. (R) 12.00 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 12.15 Football Focus. 1.00 Formula 1: Korean Grand Prix Qualifying Replay. 2.30 Bargain Hunt. 3.25 Escape to the Country. (R) 4.10 Walk on the Wild Side – Best in Show. 4.40 A Question of Sport. 5.10 BBC News: Regional News; Weather. 5.30 All New Total Wipeout: Champion of Champions.

6.30 Strictly Come Dancing. The battle to win the glitterball trophy really begins as the pro-celebrity couples step onto the dancefloor for the second time, knowing one pair will be going home tomorrow. The results show can be seen tomorrow.

8.25 Merlin. Part two of two. Merlin and Arthur close in on the icy fortress of Ismere, unsure of the powerful secrets Morgana and the druid Ruanan are searching for among its catacombs.

9.10 Casualty. Zoe makes a big mistake while treating a teenage girl rushed in following a car accident. Big Mac returns after his heart attack, despite protests from Noel and Louise.

10.00 The National Lottery Saturday Night Draws.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Good Cop. Sav targets a couple of muggers. Last in the series; National Lottery Update.

11.30 The Football League Show. Highlights of today's matches in League One and League Two.

12.05 Film: Highlander: Endgame. (2000) 1.40 Weatherview. 1.45 BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 CBeebies. 7.00 CBBC. 12.10 The Sky at Night. (R) 12.30 Animal Park. (R) 1.30 Film: Sydney White. (2007) 3.10 Film: Bicentennial Man. (1999) 5.15 Coast. (R) 5.45 WarTime Farm. (R)

6.45 Flog It! Paul Martin visits Cardiff Castle, where he admires the medieval interior fittings, while James Lewis and Philip Serrell join in the search for bargains to be sold at auction. (R)

7.15 Servants: The True Story of Life Below Stairs. Pamela Cox explores how the idea of a "servant class" in Britain came to an end in the 20th century, as the two world wars transformed women's lives. Last in the series. (R)

8.15 Dad's Army. Mainwaring camps the platoon in the middle of a firing range, forcing Corporal Jones to make a desperate effort to raise the alarm. Starring Arthur Lowe and Clive Dunn. (R)

8.45 QI XL. Sandi Toksvig, Bill Bailey, Susan Calman and Alan Davies join Stephen Fry, answering questions on places that start with J.

9.30 The Thick of It. The unravelling of the key-worker housing policy forces Nicola Murray and Peter Mannion onto the defensive.

10.00 Film: Gosford Park. (2001) A shooting party at a country estate ends in murder, all under the watchful eye of the servants. Robert Altman's period drama, with Maggie Smith, Kelly Macdonald and Helen Mirren.

12.15 How the Brits Rocked America: Go West. 1.10 Film: The Final Countdown. (1980) 2.50 Close. 5.30 Live MotoGP.

ITV1

6.00 CITV. CITV 9.25 ITV News. 9.30 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. 10.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. 11.20 Dinner Date: Australia. 12.20 ITV News; Weather. 12.30 All Star Family Fortunes. (R) 1.15 Film: Jurassic Park III. (2001) 3.00 Film: Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones. (2002) 5.35 Regional Programme; Weather. 5.50 ITV News; Weather.

6.05 New You've Been Framed! Comedian Harry Hill narrates a fresh selection of comical clips filmed by viewers on their camcorders, mobile phones and webcams.

6.35 Fool Britannia. Hidden-camera show in which Dom Joly unleashes a host of pranks and oddball characters on unsuspecting members of the public across the nation.

7.05 Take Me Out. A pair of Cambridge twins hoping to win a double date are among the eligible bachelors trying to impress 30 single women. Hosted by Paddy McGuinness.

8.20 The X Factor. The remaining contestants take to the stage in the second live studio round, competing to gain positive comments from the judges and win viewers' votes.

10.35 The Jonathan Ross Show. With David Walliams and Ed Sheeran.

11.35 ITV News; Weather.

11.50 Film: Gone. (2007) Premiere. Thriller, starring Shaun Evans.

1.25 The Store; ITV News Headlines. 3.15 Ladette to Lady: Australia. (R) 4.00 ITV Nightscreen. 5.30 ITV Morning News.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 FIA GT1 Championship. 7.05 British GT. 7.35 FIM Superbike World Championship 2012. (R) 8.00 The Morning Line. 9.00 T4: Real Stories: Nicki Minaj. 10.00 T4: The Grush. 10.35 T4: Revenge. 11.35 T4: Suburgatory. 12.05 T4: The Big Bang Theory. (R) 12.40 T4: The Simpsons. (R) 1.45 Channel 4 Racing. 3.55 Come Dine with Me: Ireland. 4.25 Come Dine with Me: Ireland. 4.55 Come Dine with Me: Ireland. 5.25 Come Dine with Me: Ireland. 5.55 Come Dine with Me: Ireland.

6.25 Channel 4 News.

6.55 Thought, IV. A former Christian talks about becoming an atheist.

7.00 Comedy World Cup. Alan Carr, Sara Pascoe and Clive Anderson take on Johnny Vegas, Josh Widdicombe and Mick Miller in the first semi-final. David Tennant asks the questions.

8.00 The Million Pound Drop Live. Two stars of London 2012 – equestrian team-eventing silver medalist Zara Phillips and boxing champion Anthony Joshua – try to win as much money as possible for charity.

9.35 Film: Knowing. (2009) An astrophysicist decodes a page of numbers revealing the dates of a series of disasters and tries to prevent them happening. Mystery thriller, starring Nicolas Cage and Rose Byrne.

11.55 Film: Mona Lisa Smile. (2003) Drama, starring Julia Roberts, Kirsten Dunst, Julia Stiles and Maggie Gyllenhaal.

2.05 Hollyoaks. 4.15 Countdown. (R) 5.00 Baking Mad with Eric Lanlard. (R) 5.25 Make Do & Mend. (R) 5.50 The Hoobs. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 Power Rangers Samurai. 10.35 Batman: The Brave and the Bold. 11.10 Film: Battle of Britain. (1969) Second World War drama, starring Laurence Olivier. 1.45 Film: The Battle of the V1. (1958) Second World War adventure, with Michael Rennie. 3.55 Film: Anzio. (1968) Second World War drama, starring Robert Mitchum.

6.10 5 News Weekend.

6.15 Film: Charlie's Angels. (2000) Three private investigators are hired to rescue a computer genius and recover his dangerous latest creation. Action adventure, starring Drew Barrymore, Lucy Liu and Cameron Diaz.

8.10 NCIS. A petty officer is killed in what at first seems to be a road-rage incident – until the team discovers he belonged to an underground fight club. Crime drama, starring Mark Harmon. (R)

9.00 CSI: Miami. Horatio and the team investigate the death of a skydiver who was also a sperm donor, but the case becomes complicated when a DNA sample leaves them with more than 100 suspects.

10.00 Live International Boxing. James DeGale v Hadijah Mohoumadi. Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the European Super Middleweight title bout, held at Glow in Bluewater, Kent.

12.05 SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. 4.00 House Doctor. (R) 4.25 Divine Designs. (R) 4.50 Rough Guide to Eco Escapes. (R) 5.00 Hana's Helpline. (R) 5.10 The Milkshake! Show. (R) 5.35 Thomas & Friends. (R) 5.45 Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Pop's Greatest Dance Crazes
8.00 Top Gear 9.00 Live at the Apollo 9.45 Russell Howard's Good News Extra 10.30 Film: Meet the Fockers (2004)
BBC Four
7.00 Human Planet 8.00 Horizon: What Happened Before the Big Bang? 9.00 Inspector Montalbano 10.50 The Story of Light Entertainment

ITV2
3.10 The X Factor USA 6.00 Film: Peter Pan (2003) 8.15 Film: Back to the Future Part II (1989) 10.35 The Xtra Factor 11.35 Take Me Out – The Gossip

ITV3
3.40 Agatha Christie's Poirot 5.55 Murder, She Wrote 6.50 Foyle's War 9.00 Midsomer Murders 11.00 Crime Connections

ITV4
2.30 Film: Nevada Smith (1966) 5.10 Film: The Cimarron Kid (1952) 7.00 The Sweeney 8.00 River Monsters 9.00 Film: The Jerk (1979) 11.00 Film: Blazing Saddles (1974)

E4
3.00 Revenge 4.00 How I Met Your Mother 5.00 The Big Bang Theory 6.00 Baggage 7.00 The Big Bang Theory 7.30 Rules of Engagement 8.30 Suburgatory 9.00 David Blaine: What Is Magic? 10.00 Film: Friday the 13th (2009)

Film4
1.00 Titanic (1997) 4.50 Five Children and It (2004) 6.40 Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief (2010) 9.00 Dogma (1999) A lapsed Catholic must stop two fallen angels returning to Heaven or it will mean the end of the world. Comedy fantasy, with Matt Damon, Ben Affleck and Linda Fiorentino. 11.25 Saw IV (2007)

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 14.10.12

CHOICE



Fiona Bruce

Antiques Roadshow

BBC1, 8.30pm
Britain loves a good antique. You only have to take into consideration the longevity and popularity of this BBC stalwart show, itself something of a much-treasured oldie, to see that that much is true. This week, Fiona and the team wind up in Cheltenham Town Hall where they meet more hopefuls looking to learn the worth of their collectibles. As always, we get a glimpse of the weird and the wonderful, including a curious table from the famous local racecourse, and possibly the most important single historic document ever seen on the show.

BBC1

6.00 Live Formula 1: Korean Grand Prix. **9.15** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.15** Sunday Morning Live. **11.15** Sunday Politics: Weather for the Week Ahead. **12.35** Bargain Hunt. **1.35** Helicopter Heroes. **2.00** Formula 1: Korean Grand Prix. **4.05** Escape to the Country. **5.05** Points of View. **5.55** Nigel Slater's Dish of the Day. **6.25** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **6.50** Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. The first couple are eliminated, and Scissor Sisters perform. **7.30** Countryfile. Matt Baker and Julia Bradbury investigate wildlife film-making in Hampshire, including Eric Ashby's pioneering work in recording the activities of badgers, foxes and deer. Including Weather for the Week Ahead. **8.30** Antiques Roadshow. Items in Port Sunlight include a matchstick model of Buckingham Palace. **9.30** Andrew Marr's History of the World. The Middle Ages, exploring how the Vikings laid the foundations of powerful new trading states, while Muslim scholars built upon the knowledge of ancient civilisations. **10.30** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **10.55** Film: Good Will Hunting. (1997) Drama, starring Matt Damon, Robin Williams and Minnie Driver. **12.55** Weatherview. **1.00** Sign Zone: Cash Britain. **1.30** Andrew Marr's History of the World. **2.30** Holby City. **3.30** The Paradise. **4.30** BBC News.

BBC2

7.00 CBBC. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** The Great British Bake Off. **12.30** MotoGP. **2.00** Film: Nicholas and Alexandra. (1971) **5.00** Flog It! **6.00** Indian Ocean with Simon Reeve. The adventurer travels around the coast of the Indian Ocean, setting out in South Africa – where he dives with sharks – and moving on to Mozambique and Zanzibar. **7.00** Fawcett Towers. In the first episode of the comedy, Basil tries to upgrade his clientele. **7.30** Top Gear. Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May test the KTM X-Bow, the Morgan Three Wheeler and the Caterham R500 at Donington Park racing circuit. With Blur bassist Alex James. **8.30** Built in Britain. Part two of two-part David Davies engineering success stories like the Olympic Park and Britain's first high-speed train line to see what it takes to deliver great infrastructure. **9.30** Dragons' Den. Ideas include doggy ice-cream and a new concept in camping. **10.30** Mock the Week. With Katherine Ryan, Milton Jones and Josh Widdicombe. Last in the series. **11.00** Never Mind the Buzzcocks. With Jack Whitehall, Mena Suvari and Danny Jones. **11.30** Film: Howl. (2010) Premiere. Fact-based drama, starring James Franco. **12.50** Film: The Odd Angry Shot. (1979) Vietnam War drama, starring John Hargreaves. **2.20** BBC News. **4.30** Close.

ITV1

6.00 CITV: CITV. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** House Gift. **10.25** There's No Taste Like Home. **11.30** Dickinson's Real Deal. **12.30** ITV News: Weather. **12.45** Murder, She Wrote. **1.45** The X Factor. **3.55** The Home of Fabulous Cakes. **5.00** Downton Abbey. **6.00** Cornwall with Caroline Quentin. Pirate Day celebrations take place on St Michael's Mount. **6.30** Regional Programme; Weather. **6.45** ITV News; Weather. **7.00** Coronation Street. Tracy's announcement rocks Michelle and Steve, who cannot believe she would stoop so low to get back at them. **8.00** The X Factor Results. Dermot O'Leary announces the outcome of the viewers' phone-in and the two least popular acts have to stay for survival. Plus, performances by Taylor Swift and Rebecca Ferguson. **9.00** Downton Abbey. An exciting offer for Edith divides opinion, a new maid attracts Alfred's attention and Matthew's worries about the estate grow – but his protests could be falling on deaf ears. **10.05** ITV News; Weather. **10.20** Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Ronan Keating. An interview with the pop star. **11.20** Strictly Kosh. Part one of two. Follow-up documentary about Manchester's Jewish community. **12.20** The Store; ITV News Headlines. **2.20** Golden Balls. **3.10** Motorsport UK. **4.00** ITV Nightscreen. **5.30** ITV Morning News.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The Hoobs. **6.40** International Volleyball. **7.35** Stockton River Rat Race. **8.00** Channel 4 Presents – Lee. **8.05** Will & Grace. **8.30** Frasier. **9.00** Frasier. **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **11.55** The Big Bang Theory. **12.25** The Big Bang Theory. **1.20** The Simpsons. **1.50** The Simpsons. **2.20** Film: Just My Luck. (2006) **4.20** Deal or No Deal. **5.20** Channel 4 News. **5.50** 4thought.tv. **5.55** Film: The Golden Compass. (2007) **8.00** Kevin McCloud's Man Made Home. The Grand Designs host introduces a touch of luxury to his handmade cabin, finding a unique solution for a hot tub and fashioning a robe out of alpaca wool. Last in the series. **9.00** Homeland. Against the advice of her family, Carrie becomes involved in an operation that could rid the world of Abu Nazir once and for all, while Brody's handler presses him into service. **10.00** Friday Night Dinner. Grandma introduces the family to her new boyfriend, but the old crumple quickly upsets them with his rude behaviour. **10.30** Film: Snakes on a Plane. (2006) An FBI agent escorting a witness against a crime boss faces danger when 450 poisonous snakes are released during their flight. Thriller, with Samuel L. Jackson and Jonathan Phillips. **12.35** Irish Dancing Triplets. **1.00** American Football Live. **4.45** Grudge Match. **4.55** Deal or No Deal. **5.50** Quick Bakes with Eric Lanlard. **6.15**

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. **6.15** Fifi and the Flowerets. **6.25** City of Friends. **6.40** The Mr Men Show. **6.50** Castle Farm. **7.00** Abby's Flying Fairy School. **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. **7.15** Bananas in Pyjamas. **7.25** Play! **7.35** Noddy in Toyland. **7.50** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. **8.00** Little Princess. **8.15** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. **8.40** Little Lodgers. **8.45** Rupert Bear. **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. **9.15** Toby's Travelling Circus. **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. **9.45** Jelly Jam. **10.00** Power Rangers Samurai. **10.35** Batman: The Brave and the Bold. **11.10** Looney Tunes. **11.20** Monkey Life. **11.50** Dailies. **12.45** Film: Yours, Mine & Ours. (2005) **2.30** Film: The Next Karate Kid. (1994) **4.35** Film: A Bug's Life. (1998) **6.30** 5 News Weekend. **6.35** Film: Godzilla. (1998) A giant mutant lizard spawned from an atomic test rampages through the streets of New York. Hollywood remake of the Japanese monster adventure, with Matthew Broderick and Jean Reno. **9.00** Film: Rocky Balboa. (2006) Premiere. Boxing drama, starring Sylvester Stallone. **11.15** Film: Dragon: The Bruce Lee Story. (1993) Biopic of the kung fu movie star, starring Jason Scott Lee. **1.30** SuperCasino. **4.00** The FBI Files. **4.50** Rough Guide To. **5.00** Hana's Helpline. **5.10** The Milkshake! Show. **5.35** Thomas & Friends. **5.45** Roary the Racing Car. **6.15**

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Formula 1: Korean Grand Prix highlights. **8.00** Gavin & Stacey. **9.00** Sun. Sex and Suspicious Parents. **10.00** American Dad! **10.45** Family Guy. **11.30** Cuckoo
BBC Four
7.00 Film: Fiddler on the Roof (1971) **9.50** Timeshift: Kiezmer. **10.50** An Evening with Andy Williams: Part 1. **11.40** An Evening with Andy Williams: Part 2
ITV2
2.55 Film: Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **4.45** Take Me Out. **5.55** Take Me Out – The Gossip. **6.40** Film: Back to the Future Part III (1990) **9.00** The Xtra Factor. **10.00** The Only Way is Essex. **10.45** Girlfr! 3nds. **11.50** Celebrity Juice
ITV3
3.10 Film: Agatha Christie's A Caribbean Mystery (1983) **5.05** Film: The Railway Children (1970) **7.20** The Classic Brit Awards 2012. **8.55** An Audience with Victoria Wood. **10.00** Lewis
ITV4
3.25 Film: Support Your Local Sheriff (1968) **5.20** Film: Nevada Smith (1966) **8.00** Film: The Magnificent Seven Ride! (1972) **10.00** Film: Midnight Run (1988) Comedy thriller, starring Robert De Niro and Charles Grodin.
E4
3.10 Ugly Betty. **4.05** New Girl. **4.35** Suburgatory. **5.05** Revenge. **6.05** The Big Bang Theory. **8.00** Film: Jumper (2008) **9.50** Darren Brown: Something Wicked This Way Comes. **11.30** David Blaine: What Is Magic?
Film4
3.55 Jungle Book (1942) **5.10** Angus, Thongs and Perfect Snogging (2008) **7.05** Nine Months (1995) **9.00** The Ugly Truth (2009) **10.50** Notorious (2009)

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What's On!

Film Choices

MONDAY

Collateral Damage, Channel 5, 9pm

A heroic firefighter is plunged into the world of international terrorism when his wife and child are killed in a horrific attack. Disillusioned with the progress of the official investigation, he decides to take on the villains himself and heads for Colombia on a dangerous mission of revenge, determined to bring the perpetrators to justice. Action thriller, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, Francesca Neri, Elias Koteas and Cliff Curtis. (2002)

TUESDAY

The Gingerbread Man, BBC1, 11.40pm

A lawyer is shocked to learn of his girlfriend's traumatic upbringing and launches a personal crusade to see her violent, abusive father brought to justice. He succeeds in having him committed to an asylum – little suspecting he is setting the scene for a deadly confrontation. Robert Altman's legal thriller based on John Grisham's novel, starring Kenneth Branagh, Embeth Davidtz, Robert Downey Jr, Robert Duvall, Famke Janssen and Daryl Hannah. (1998)



Pale Rider, Thursday, Channel 5, 9pm

WEDNESDAY

It's a Wonderful Afterlife, BBC1, 11.15pm

An Indian mother is determined to see her daughter married, and turns to murder to accomplish her goals. She finds herself haunted by the spirits of her victims, who can only rest in peace when she dies, while her daughter falls for the policeman investigating the string of suspicious deaths. Supernatural comedy, with Shabana Azmi and Goldy Notay. (2010)

THURSDAY

Pale Rider, Channel 5, 9pm

An unscrupulous landowner threatens to throw gold-miners off their land and take the riches for himself. As the law turns a blind eye to their troubles, the miners desperately need a saviour – who happens to arrive in the form of a mysterious preacher with formidable gunfighting skills. Western, directed by and starring Clint Eastwood, alongside Michael Moriarty. (1985)

FRIDAY

Rocky Balboa, Channel 5, 10pm

The ageing fighter contemplates a return to the ring when a computer simulation reveals he would have defeated the current world heavyweight champion Mason "The Line" Dixon, who responds by challenging Rocky to face him for real. Boxing drama sequel, directed by and starring Sylvester Stallone. With Antonio Tarver, Geraldine Hughes, Burt Young, Milo Ventimiglia and Tony Burton. (2006)

Pick of the Week

An explosive evening is in store for the family

It's February 2011, and Twitter starts buzzing with requests from stars to watch Friday Night Dinner, the new sitcom from Robert Popper.

As a producer of Peep Show and script editor on The Inbetweeners, he certainly earned his comedy stripes, but at the time it was anyone's guess whether FND would be a hit.

It helped that Popper secured the services of two of the hottest talents in British comedy – Tamsin Greig (Black Books, Episodes) and Simon Bird (The Inbetweeners).

The fact it was backed by one of Blighty's most successful producers, Nina Park (Shaun of the Dead, Hot Fuzz), was an added bonus. (Popper has tiny roles in both movies in case you were wondering).

The concept of FND was simplicity itself: each episode took place over the course of a Friday night, as twenty-something brothers Adam (Bird) and Jonny (Tom Rosenthal) went round to their parents' Jackie and Martin Goodman, for dinner.

It didn't hurt that Mark Heap, the king of offbeat characters such as

eccentric artist Brian in Spaced and creepy medic Alan in Green Wing, would often steal the show.

Though only a secondary character, his turn as the Goodmans' neighbour Jim Bell – loosely inspired by one of Popper's neighbours, who acted like Salvador Dali – soon became must-see viewing, especially as Jim's interest with Jackie borders on obsessive.

That he was terrified of his own Belgian Shepherd, Wilson, also led to many hilarious interludes. While some sitcoms such as The Big Bang Theory benefit from a high gag-per-minute count, others such as this show have more of a slow drip effect.

All of which brings us to this second run (Sunday, Channel 4, 10pm), and adhering to the well-worn formula 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it', Mr Popper's sitcom is still milking the same formula of domestic awkwardness and nosy neighbours.

This week, Grandma (Frances Cuka) introduces the family to her new boyfriend, but the seasoned curmudgeon soon upsets everyone with his rude behaviour.

Dad (Paul Ritter) cannot stand him and hides in his shed, but nobody is prepared for what happens when the guest suddenly loses his temper.

A good rule of thumb for any wordsmith is 'write what you know', which may be one of the reasons Popper's semi-autobiographical sitcom touches a chord with millions, including his family.

"It's very loosely based on them," he explained in one interview. "Although there are a few scenes which are completely, 100 per cent lifted from stuff that happened in my house."

Friday Night Dinner's success has not gone unnoticed across the Pond, and NBC has recently been planning a version for the all important American market.

The West Wing's Allison Janney and Monk's Tony Shalhoub have been cast as mum and dad for a pilot episode, with The Office's Greg Daniels penning the Stateside edition.

Whether that goes to a full series is anyone's guess, but if it does there's a good bet Mr Popper will be laughing all the way to the bank.



Friday Night Dinner, Sunday, Channel 4, 10pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY

Classic Car Rescue

Channel 5, 8pm

When Ford unveiled their latest model, the Mustang, in 1964, the company's big cheeses hoped it would do well, but had no idea it would be their most successful vehicle since the Model A. Punters fell in love with it, and it soon became one of Hollywood's favourite vehicles too with models popping up in 007 epics Goldfinger and Diamonds are Forever, but perhaps the greatest showcase was 1968 classic Bullitt. Steve McQueen driving it through the streets of San Francisco left an indelible mark on the minds of millions. Can Bernie Fineman and Mario Pacione restore a model for this week's show? There's only one way to find out.

Sing for Your Life

Channel 4, 8pm

Say what you like about Channel 4, but when they've got something to plug, there's nothing half-hearted about their efforts. And so this week, as they continue their fundraising campaign with Cancer Research UK, you're about to learn a heck of a lot more about terminal illnesses that claim eight million lives every year. This programme focuses on the Big C Choir which is made up of an inspiring group of people, who (yes, you've probably guessed), have all been or are receiving treatment for cancer. And while it's helped by the fact they're trained by the best (Emeli Sande and Russell Watson), it's not the easiest of challenges, as they juggle treatment sessions and rehearsals...

TUESDAY

Live International Football

ITV1, 7.30pm

England continue their quest to reach the 2014 World Cup finals in Brazil, with this evening's Group H qualifier away to Poland, staged at the National Stadium in Warsaw. The match looks to be one of the most challenging for Roy Hodgson's men, as they face a Polish side aiming to impress their fans following a poor showing at Euro 2012, which they co-hosted with Ukraine, but crashed out of at the group stage without winning a game. Poland played twice at this venue, drawing on each occasion, and will look to Borussia Dortmund striker Robert Lewandowski to add to his growing reputation against an England defence that will be without former captain John Terry, who has retired from international football.

WEDNESDAY

Who Do You Think You Are?

BBC1, 9pm

Although retired footballer John Barnes played internationally for England, he was born in Jamaica and lived there until he was 13. Unsurprisingly, he journeys back to the island of his birth to investigate his ancestors in the penultimate edition. Barnes pays particular attention to the role his grandfather played in Jamaica's fight for independence from Britain and the time he spent behind bars

during the Second World War. Barnes also wants to know why, after being so prominent, his relative eventually became unpopular with his former political allies. We've seen him impress on the pitch and swivel his hips on Strictly, but here we get to see yet another side to his personality.

THURSDAY Emmerdale at 40 ITV1, 8.30pm

The Yorkshire soap has been celebrating its 40th birthday with a week of drama featuring births, marriages and a death. But while fans may be busy speculating about who will die and whether Chas can really go through with saying 'I do' to Dan, it's also a good time to look back on some of the soap's biggest storylines from years gone by. This new series starts off with a look at the plots that grabbed the headlines, including the 1993 story that saw Zoe Tate coming out to her old-fashioned, homophobic father – and some equally shocked viewers. Emmerdale at 40 also covers the arrival of Patsy Kensit as Sadie King, and the heartbreaking plot that saw Laurel and Ashley losing baby Daniel.

Emmerdale at 40, Thursday, ITV1, 8.30pm

FRIDAY

Stand Up to Cancer Channel 4, 7.30pm

Cancer is no laughing matter, so like Comic Relief, there are bound to be a few serious moments in this info-tainment strand, which promises to educate and inform, but at the same time raise a few laughs at a disease which has affected millions of us. Channel 4 staples Dr Christian Jessen, Davina McCall and Alan Carr are present and correct, while the show is heaving with famous faces doing their bit for a good cause. X Factor veterans Cheryl Cole and Leona Lewis will be adding their dulcet tones to proceedings; there are editions of Chatty Man and The Million Pound Drop Live, while Derren Brown and a mystery celebrity take part in Paintball Russian Roulette.

Eddie Stobart: Trucks and Trailers Channel 5, 8pm

For many of us growing up in the 1970s, trucking was as dynamic as Disco, and in recent years the success of Ice Road Truckers and this show has helped rekindle that interest extra vehicular activities. And if you do like to keep on trucking, then you might be keen on Eddie Stobart's new eco-friendly trailer, which can hold 20 per cent more goods than a regular carrier. Mark Dixon tests it out, but soon discovers the additional capacity poses fresh challenges. Meanwhile in Southport, Jimmy Callaghan has trouble negotiating bollards, and the company's annual festival, one of the biggest events in the trucking calendar, leaves the drivers rather excited.

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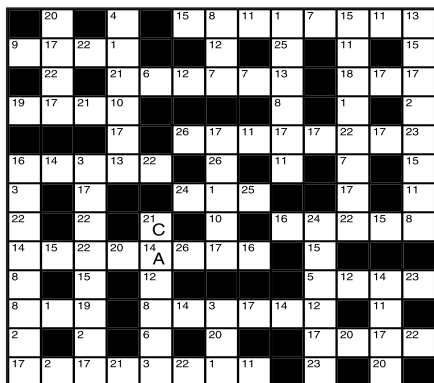
What's On!

Brain Gym

No.189

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	A	H	B	V	C	U	F	M	N	P	S	Y	K
14	T	E	G	Z	O	Q	R	W	J	L	D	X	I

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

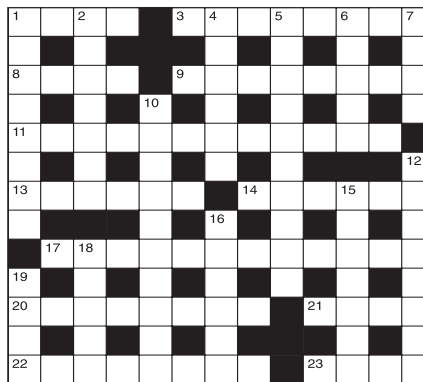
Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Yet it's work for actors (4)
3. Variety of liquorice (3,5)
8. As an afterthought, they crawl (4)
9. Not accidentally engaged? (8)
11. A chess match, for example? (5,7)
13. Mail for the landlord (6)
14. One art that's becoming decorative (6)
17. He's responsible for the classroom's re-organisation (12)
20. For which one needs to be in fighting form? (5,3)
21. Sparkling wine from Castile (4)
22. High points of religious architecture (8)
23. Looks both ways (4)

Down

1. Don't miss the delivery, but co-operate (4,4)
2. Serpent has to stop on the road (7)
4. Bird allowed outside the inn (6)
5. Not as inert as loud (10)
6. Finally captured an earthwork (5)
7. Half of the record team (4)
10. Groundless rumour that there's unemployment? (4,6)
12. Almost a hit with the girl (4,4)
15. Its rate is adjusted for a professional performer (7)
16. Disturb a sleep, if you don't mind (6)
18. A girl left in custody (5)
19. Legislative measures followed by Romans (4)



Quick Clues:

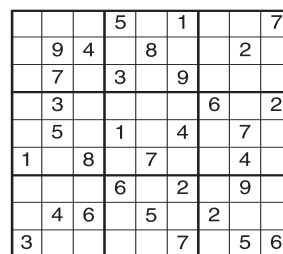
Across

1. Persia (4)
3. Cherished (8)
8. Locate (4)
9. To loose (8)
11. Mass (12)
13. Contemporary (6)
14. Revenue (6)
17. Bubbling (12)
20. Dreadful (8)
21. Moist (4)
22. Praised (8)
23. Pure (4)

Down

1. Example (8)
2. Object (7)
4. Fester (6)
5. Cunning (10)
6. Surpass (5)
7. Dispatch (4)
10. Unimportant (10)
12. Sixfold (8)
15. Daunt (7)
16. Develop (6)
18. Chief (5)
19. Footwear (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	7	6	8	9	5	3	4	2
4	2	8	1	7	3	5	6	9
3	9	5	6	4	2	1	7	8
9	6	4	7	2	1	8	5	3
7	3	1	9	5	8	4	2	6
5	8	2	3	6	4	7	9	1
6	1	7	5	3	9	2	8	4
8	4	9	2	1	7	6	3	5
2	5	3	4	8	6	9	1	7

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS:
CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Yells in pain; 9 Arbutus; 10 Notch; 11 Bower; 12 Drawn up; 13 Cobble; 15 Repeat; 18 Earache; 20 Train; 22 Orate; 23 Parcels; 24 Reading lamp. Down: 2 Elbow; 3 Lateral; 4 Inside; 5 Panda; 6 Intense; 7 Gay bachelor; 8 Shapeliness; 14 Barrage; 16 Enthral; 17 Keep on; 19 Creed; 21 Abeam. QUICK - Across: 1 Catastrophe; 9 Failure; 10 Lotto; 11 Emend; 12 Ditches; 13 Absurd; 15 Gifted; 18 Holiday; 20 Solar; 22 Limit; 23 Transit; 24 Information. Down: 2 Agile; 3 Asunder; 4 Treads; 5 Owllet; 6 Hatchet; 7 After a while; 8 Considerate; 14 Solomon; 16 Instant; 17 System; 19 Ditto; 21 Lasso.



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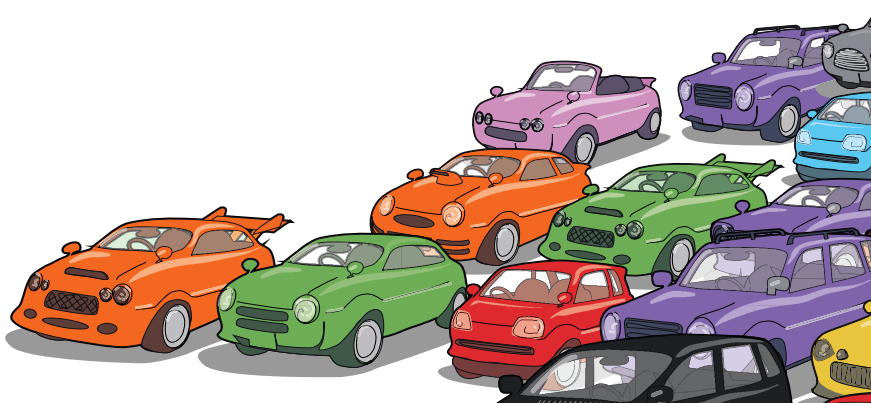
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The top property guide for Dudley, Halesowen, Stourbridge, Kidderminster and beyond

Well-maintained home for £95,000

NUMBER 29 Broad Street in Coseley is on the market for £95,000 and is described by the agent Taylors, as a 'significantly modernised' and 'conscientiously maintained' starter house.

The three-bed semi has a refitted kitchen and bathroom with white suite, spacious garden and viewings come highly recommended. The ground floor accommodation consists of a reception hall, separate dining room, lounge to the rear and kitchen which measures 9ft 11 x 6ft 4in with under stair pantry.

Upstairs, the landing has doors leading to three bedrooms and a bathroom. Each of the rooms has a coved ceiling, double-glazed window and radiator while the bathroom has a contemporary suite with shower, hand wash basin, WC and chrome-effect heated towel rail. Outside, the front of the house has been paved providing parking and low maintenance flower beds while the rear garden, which is accessed via a timber gate, has an extensive lawn area with central patio and substantial brick store. There are also numerous soft fruit trees, a herb garden and raspberry, blackcurrant, gooseberry and rhubarb shrubs. Via can be arranged via the Sedgley office on 01902 880 888 or visit www.taylors-estateagents.co.uk for further details.



A contemporary interior awaits the buyer of number 29 Broad Street, located in Coseley



Taylors is marketing this 'significantly modernised' property

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PERRY HILL ROAD, OLDBURY



Extended & immaculate 3 bed home
2 receptions, breakfast kitchen & utility
Conservatory & refitted d/s shower room
Refitted u/s bathroom with roll top bath
Private garden with westerly aspect
Blockpaved driveway & garage
£195,000 Ref: D1243

CHESTNUT ROAD, OLDBURY



3 bedroom detached family home
No upward chain
26ft lounge diner & kitchen
Garage & driveway
Extensive lawned rear garden
GCH & DG fitted
£179,950 Ref: D1236

MARSHWOOD CROFT, HALESOWEN



3 bedroom home with conservatory
Lounge, dining room & kitchen
Garage & blockpaved driveway
Rear garden with private aspect
Cul-de-sac location
UPVC DG & GCH
£164,995 Ref: D1235

MILCOTE ROAD, BEARWOOD



Immaculate 3 bedroom victorian home
2 reception rooms & refitted kitchen
Refitted d/s bathroom with white suite
Within yards of lightwoods park
Bus routes into birmingham city centre
UPVC DG & gas central heating fitted
£154,950 Ref: D1244

OLDBURY ROAD, ROWLEY REGIS



2 bed bungalow with garage
No upward chain
Refitted shower room
18ft lounge diner & kitchen
GCH & majority UPVC DG
Corner plot with lawned gardens
£139,950 Ref: D1241

PINEWOOD DRIVE, BARTLEY GREEN



3 bed home with corner plot
Private parking & garage
Refitted kitchen with built in appliances
16ft lounge/diner onto patio
Well proportioned rear garden
UPVC DG & GCH
£129,950 Ref: D1238

LANDSWOOD ROAD, OLDBURY



Modernised 3 bedroom home
Refitted dining kitchen & conservatory
14ft lounge & d/s wc
Refitted shower room
Driveway & carport
UPVC DG & GCH
£124,950 Ref: D1240

LONG LANE, HALESOWEN



Top floor flat with parking
1 double bedroom & shower room
12ft lounge diner & kitchen
Night storage heating
Low ground rent of £50 pa
Close to shops & bus routes
£69,950 Ref: D1242

FRANKLEY AVENUE, HALESOWEN



Four bed extended home with garage
Extended kitchen & UPVC conservatory
20ft max lounge & separate dining room
Master fitted bedroom with ensuite shower
Three further bedrooms & family bathroom
Block paved driveway & integral garage
£209,950 Ref: D1182

CASTLE ROAD WEST, OLDBURY



Extended 3 bed home with driveway
24ft lounge diner & refitted kitchen
UPVC conservatory with utility
Upstairs shower room & d/s WC
Gardens to rear with southerly aspect
No chain, UPVC DG & GCH
£124,950 Ref: D1191

LEWIS ROAD, OLDBURY



Extended 3 bed semi det home
Refitted 15ft kitchen
Lounge & separate dining room
Refitted bathroom & WC
UPVC DG & GCH
Garage to rear
£124,950 Ref: D1232

HOLLY ROAD, OLDBURY



3 bed semi in need of some updating
UPVC, DBG fascias & soffit & GCH
Vacant possession - no upward chain
Lounge, kitchen/dining room, D/S bathroom
Three bedrooms & WC on first floor
Off road parking to front, large rear garden
£119,950 Ref: D1208

ROMSLEY ROAD, BARTLEY GREEN



Large 2 double bedroom semi
17ft dining kitchen & lounge
Utility room & downstairs WC
Refitted bathroom with white suite
Garage & large driveway
No upward chain
£114,000 Ref: D1245

MARSHWOOD CROFT, HALESOWEN



Immaculate & extended det 4 bed home
Lounge diner, fitted kitchen & utility room
Master bedroom & refitted en-suite
3 further bedrooms & family shower room
Garage & block paved driveway to front
Lawned private gardens to rear
£249,950 Ref: D1219

APSLEY ROAD, OLDBURY



Extended 4 bed semi
Large Kitchen with dining room off
Lounge & separate sitting room
4 beds, shower room & 2nd WC
Parking to front & enclosed rear garden
UPVC DBG, GCH & alarm
£189,950 Ref: D1230

POTTERY ROAD, OLDBURY



Spacious & well presented home
14ft lounge and 11ft dining room
Refitted kitchen and 16ft lean to utility
Refitted bathroom - white suite & 3 beds
Rear garage & lawned garden
Double glazed and gas central heating
£144,950 Ref: D1217

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HALESOWEN, CARTERS LANE

A Three Bedroom Semi-Detached House, Situated On A Large Prominent Corner Position In The Very Popular Area Of Lapid, Comprising Of: Three Double Bedrooms, Three Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Conservatory, Bathroom With Separate Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazed Throughout, Garage, Driveway For Four Cars And Large Gardens Extending To The Side. The Perfect Family Home. Available Immediately.

£850 PCM



HALESOWEN, DOWNING STREET

An immaculately presented and recently modernised semi-detached home, centrally located in Halesowen town centre, comprising of: Three Good Sized Bedrooms With Floor Hardboards, Fitted Kitchen With White Units, Stunning Lounge And Separate Dining Room, Family Bathroom With Shower, Downstairs WC, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazed, Driveway Parking, Large Rear Garden, Post Furnished, A Property Not To Be Missed

£695 PCM



HALESOWEN, ALBERT ROAD

An immaculately presented detached house within minutes of Halesowen, in a well sought after location, comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Large Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room, Downstairs WC, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Parking to the Front, Detached Garage at Rear, Front and Rear Gardens. A Property Not To Be Missed

£695 PCM



HALESOWEN, SANDERSON PLACE

Luxury Living In Hayley Green A superb ground floor apartment available immediately. Offering Spacious Accommodation including Open Plan Lounge/Kitchen and Dining with balcony, Two Double Bedrooms, Master with En-Suite, Further Well Appointed Bathroom with Shower, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing and Allocated Parking.

£650 PCM



HALESOWEN, THE INFELD

An unfurnished modern 3 bed semi detached family home, located on a new build development, benefitting from: Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Comprising of: Spacious Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Guest WC, 3 Bedrooms, One with En-Suite, Family Bathroom with Shower, Small Rear Garden and Allocated Parking.

£650 PCM



STOURBRIDGE, WHEELER STREET

A traditional three bedroom mid terrace property in a popular residential area and comprising of: Front Reception Room with Original Marble Fireplace, Back Reception Room, Fitted Kitchen, Downstairs Bathroom with Shower, Two Large Bedrooms and One Large Single, Lovely Rear Garden, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, On Road Parking, Available Immediately.

£650 PCM



HALESOWEN, PORTSDOWN ROAD

A well presented three bedroom semi detached house in sought after area. The property is offered unfurnished and comprises of: Hall, Guest WC, Lounge, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Family Bathroom with Shower, Low Maintenance Rear Garden driveway, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing.

£575 PCM



HALESOWEN, HIGHLAND HOUSE

Located just off Graham Road, is this very large, fully refurbished ground floor flat, comprising of: Two Large Bedrooms, New Fitted Kitchen, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, Allocated Parking, Garage, Communal Gardens. Unfurnished

£550 PCM



HALESOWEN, BLOOMFIELD STREET NORTH

An extremely well presented and terrace home being situated within easy access to Halesowen town, comprising of: Lounge with Feature Fireplace, Kitchen/Diner, Large Conservatory, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Charming Rear Garden, Gas Central Heating, Partial Double Glazing, On Road Parking, Internal Inspection is Highly Recommended. Unfurnished

£540 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, DUKE STREET

A two bedroom refurbished mid terrace property, within walking distance to local buses and Blackheath Town Centre, comprising of: 2 Reception Rooms, Fitted Kitchen/Utility Room, Private Rear Garden, 2 Double Bedrooms, Shower Room, Rear Access for Parking, A Must See Property!

£525 PCM



BARTLEY GREEN, LUDFORD ROAD

An unfurnished Semi detached house, located in the Woodgate Area, ideally located for the local primary school, comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Large Lounge, House Bathroom with Shower, Driveway Parking, Mature Rear Garden

£525 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, NEW POOL ROAD

Currently Undergoing A Full Refurbishment With A New Kitchen, New Bathroom, New Carpets, New Decoration, Is This End Terrace Property, Located Within A Few Minutes Walk Of Cradley Heath Train Station And 5 Minutes Drive From Cradley Heath Town Centre, Comprising Of: Two Good Sized Bedrooms, Large Lounge With Dining Area, New Kitchen, New Bathroom With Separate Toilet, A Property Not To Be Missed

£525 PCM



HALESOWEN, BEECHER ROAD

An unfurnished semi detached house, briefly comprising of: Three Bedrooms, Lounge, Fitted Dining Kitchen, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Downstairs Bathroom, Laundry Room, En-Suite Shower Room to Master Bedroom, Driveway Parking, Front and rear gardens. A Value for Money Property.

£525 PCM



HALESOWEN, BRETT YOUNG CLOSE

An impressive ground floor apartment within walking distance to Halesowen town centre, with great bus links to Birmingham. Briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms - 1 Double and 1 Single, Spacious Lounge, Modern Kitchen and Separate Dining Area, Modern Bathroom with Shower, Allocating Parking, Not To Be Missed!

£525 PCM



HALESOWEN, MANOR LANE

A furnished flat above shop, briefly comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Living Room, Large Fitted Kitchen, Double Bedroom, Shower Room, Secure Parking

£475 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, MEADOW WALK

A superbly refurbished mid-terrace property comprising of: Two Double Bedrooms, Gas Central Heating, Double Glazing, Large Bathroom with P-Shaped Bath and Shower, Driveway Parking, Unfurnished, A Must See Property!

£475 PCM



NETHERTON, ROUND STREET

Situated on a very popular road, and a short walk from local shops and bus links, is this unfurnished semi detached house, comprising of: Gas Central Heating, Cosy Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Low Maintenance Rear Gardens, Driveway Parking

£450 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, HALAS COURT

An unfurnished top floor apartment, close to local shops, train station, and bus routes, briefly comprising of: Lounge, Fitted Kitchen with Appliances, Two Bedrooms, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens, Electronic Gates Leading to Secure Parking Area, Internal Inspection Recommended

£450 PCM



CRADLEY HEATH, ELBOW STREET

Situated in a quiet location, within walking distance to Old Hill town and local train station is this unfurnished first floor flat, comprising of: Electric Storage Heating, Large Living Room, Fitted Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Bathroom with Shower, Communal Gardens, Allocated Parking.

£450 PCM



HALESOWEN, LINDEN AVENUE

A one bedroomed bungalow set in a popular location. Accommodation includes: fitted kitchen, lounge, double bedroom, shower room, gas central heating, double glazing, driveway to fore and rear garden with access from the rear.

£425 PCM



ROWLEY REGIS, WINCHESTER CLOSE

A very well presented, unfurnished first floor apartment, close to the M5 J2, briefly comprising of: Two Bedrooms, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge, Double Glazing, Bathroom with Shower, Parking Space and Parking Area for Visitors, Communal gardens

£425 PCM

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Spacious home is ideal for large family



Taylor's estate agent is marketing the sale of Southern Close, a substantial and spacious house for £214,950

LOCATED within the popular cul-de-sac of Southern Close in Kingswinford, this substantial and very spacious detached family house is for sale priced at £214,950.

Southern Close forms part of an extremely sought after modern development which is approached via Auckland Road and is well placed for amenities including a good selection of shops, restaurants, local schooling and regular public transport services.

On the ground floor is a WC with toilet and wall mounted wash basin, while the lounge – 18ft 5in by 11ft 7in

– has a living flame gas fire with limed oak style mantel surround and marble style hearth and archway to the dining room which is 11ft 9in by 10ft 6in and has a patio door to the rear garden.

The fitted kitchen, 10ft 6in by 9ft 2in, has a range of units with roll edge work surfaces, stainless steel one and a half bowl sink/drainage unit with mixer tap, recess and plumbing for dishwasher.

Integrated

There are wall mounted cupboards, a stainless steel four ring gas hob with cooker hood, integrated oven, recess for fridge freezer and door to a utility room measuring 10ft 7in by 5ft 3in

with a stainless steel sink/drainage unit with mixer tap, recess and plumbing for washing machine and recess for tumble dryer.

On the first floor bedroom one has an en-suite with shower cubicle, pedestal wash basin and WC, and there are three more bedrooms and a bathroom with bath with shower above, vanity unit with inset wash basin and WC.

Outside the house is set back behind a slate chipped foregarden with a block paved driveway to a garage.

The rear garden has a paved patio with steps to a lawn and further paved patio with wood chipped area.

For further information call the agent Taylors on 01384 401777.

A conversion which has many period features



Idyllic views of the surrounding countryside are visible from The Last Penny Barn in Kinlet near the Wyre Forest

National property consultants Strutt and Parker have been instructed to sell The Last Penny Barn near Kinlet – a small village on the northern edge of the beautiful Wyre Forest.

Enjoying a rural location and the glorious views of the surrounding countryside, The Last Penny Barn is an outstanding property with an abundance of character and charm offering immaculate accommodation arranged over two floors.

Exposed stone walls and original timbers feature in the sitting room, with a woodburning stove adding to the warm ambience.

Perfect for modern living and a wonderful social space, the kitchen/dining/family rooms have an open plan arrangement and are beautiful

light spaces with bi-fold doors opening onto a patio area framing the breath-taking views and perfect for alfresco entertaining.

Benefiting from a good range of base and wall mounted units, the kitchen has integrated appliances to include a fridge/freezer and a dishwasher with further storage and space for appliances in the utility room.

Rural

To the first floor, there are three spacious bedrooms which all enjoy integrated wardrobes as well as en suite facilities and benefit from rural views.

There is also a study to the first floor.

The garden lies to the rear of the house and is laid to lawn with a patio for summer dining and relaxation. The vendors have built a three bay modern barn as well as a stable block comprising three stables and a tack room which they currently use for storage.

At the entrance to the property, there is an old milking shed which has planning permission for two offices with WC. Extending beyond the garden with gated access, the pasture land lies to the south of the property and is well-fenced, amounting to about 4.7 acres.

Helen Lowery from Strutt and Parker said: "Transformed by the current owners, the property exudes quality with an exceptional eye for detail and design flair, the result of which is a stunning conversion providing the comfort of modern day living whilst still retaining many period features."

The conversion is being marketed with a guide price of £495,000.

For further information, please contact Strutt and Parker Ludlow, on 01584 873711, e mail ludlow@struttandparker.com or visit website www.struttandparker.com.



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Your essential guide to the world of motoring compiled by Motoring Editor Sharon Walters

New Kia cee'd is set to be a big player in market sector

A FEW miles into my first drive of the latest Kia I told my co-driver that here's the sort of car I'd love to hire on holiday. I don't think he knew if that was a good thing, or not.

Well it was good, at least in every aspect that matters for a car like this estate version of the latest cee'd hatchback, now called a Sportswagon, in the way every new car seems to need a sporty connection (even when it doesn't).

There really isn't anything sporty about this Slovakian-built people mover, although with its sweptback face and boldly sculpted sides it does perhaps look fit enough for a couple of sets at the local tennis club.

More important in the real world are going to be the practical advantages of choosing a Kia. Price is no longer one of them, even if they remain good value; like shopping in M&S we'll pay a bit more if we think the quality is there.

Kia judges the time is ripe to take the Europeans on at their own game and it would be a foolish (French or Italian) car-maker who did not agree, even with this

By Ian Donaldson

latest model costing about ten per cent more than the SW it succeeds.

This latest load lugger is a little longer than before but narrower and less tall. The load bay is big, evenly shaped and quickly enlarged by flopping the rear seat-backs forward, to leave a completely flat floor.

Hidden underneath are a couple of shallow compartments and the top version adds sliding aluminium luggage area rails and a barrier net behind the rear seat. Every model has roof rails.

Appeal

Such is the anticipated appeal of the newcomer to fleet users that not a single petrol-powered Sportswagon is offered in the UK, where we have the choice of 1.4 or 1.6-litre diesels, hooked to six-speed manual gearboxes, with an auto option on one 1.6 version.

Talking about prices, they range from £16,895 to £24,795 (with the estate about £1,000 more than the hatch) and the car comes in four flavours, from 1 to 4. Stan-



The new Kia cee'd, prices range from £16,895 to £24,795

dard across the range are heated door mirrors, air con, remote locking, iPod compatible sound system and hill start control that keeps the car steady for a second or two as you release the handbrake on an incline.

Pay more for versions 2, 3 and 4 and the goodies' count mounts, all the way to a heated steering wheel, huge panoramic

sunroof and beautifully clear satellite navigation system.

So how does the newcomer feel on the road? The test drive started outside the factory where the car is built on production lines so busy with robots carrying and fitting panels you begin to wonder where the more than 3,000 workers (on three

shifts to meet demand for new Kias) can be hiding.

As the Tatra mountains began to grow in the far distance, the test car settled to a quiet 80mph cruise with most hints of sportiness absent from a pleasantly compliant suspension.

The dash quality is up there with any competitor, even if the minor readouts in red are all but invisible in the strong sunlight of a lovely Slovakian day.

The sort of day you dream about when booking your next holiday, where an easygoing car like the Sportswagon would do very nicely.

Leading

And that industry leading warranty would reassure in the gloom of an English winter evening as you crawl home through the slush with the wipers on overtime and the air con keeping the windows clear.

Most users of the new Sportswagon are likely to opt for the 1.6 engine. I saw 42mpg on my test; driving the smaller 1.4 the next day I topped 63mpg in a car that felt nimble (more sporty!) and every bit as perky. It also costs a very reasonable £16,895 in far from basic 1 trim.

Low rate finance provided by GMAC Financial Services and is subject to status and terms and conditions may apply. Written quotations are available upon request. £3,000 minimum part-exchange offer: Available off of the vehicle's On The Road (OTR) price, and is applicable when trading in any make or model subject to terms and conditions and valid MOT with a minimum of 14 days remaining. Offers stated are available until 31st December 2012. Free Fuel offer: 15,000 miles of free petrol is based on the MG6's official combined fuel consumption figure (37.7) and a pump price of 132.2 pence per litre - the July 2012 UK average as quoted by the AA (http://www.theaa.com/motoring_advice/fuel). This equates to a monetary figure of £2,391.22p. Fuel payment will be sent to the customer via a pre-paid Fuel Genie card worth £2,400.00, registered to their vehicle and valid for a 3 year period. The customer will receive a Fuel Genie Card within 28 days after collection of their vehicle. No cash alternative is available in either case.

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The CLS Shooting Brake outstyles and outclasses any boxy estate car



Two diesel engines and one petrol give practicality and power

Mercedes applying the brake

By **Iain Dooley**

PREDICTING what customers might want is one thing, but getting it right time after time is what really separates the successful car companies from the also-rans.

2003 saw Mercedes unveil what was, for its time, a radical four-door 'coupe'. The initial response to the firm's CLS was a lot of puzzled faces. How things have changed.

Now into its second generation and having triggered a handful of me-too cars, Mercedes had added a niche within a niche in the shape of a CLS Shooting Brake.

Really it's just a posh alternative to an estate car, but this CLS looks better than your average big box on wheels.

That's the point. The CLS has succeeded because there are enough people who want the practicality of a big saloon but also want something more stylish.

The same logic supports the Shooting Brake concept – with 590 litres of space in regular trim and 1,550 litres with the rear seats folded, it's no four-wheeled trinket but a capable load-lugger for all but the most demanding owners. To satisfy the fashionistas there's not a straight line to be seen anywhere.

Well, that's not strictly true as you'll see plenty of straight lines if you opt for the wood decking for the rear load space. Yes, you can buy a CLS wagon with a wood floor. Proof, if you needed it, that Mercedes is aiming high in the style stakes with this streamlined station wagon.

Yet, for all the car's aesthetic attributes, the CLS Shooting Brake easily appeals to your practical side.

Like its four-door cousin, the Shooting Brake swallows a full complement of adults. The headlining in the back has a cutout section to boost headroom, while the rear doors open wide enough to make getting in and out straightforward.

Up front the instruments, controls and layout will be familiar to CLS and E-Class fans, and it's top marks for the quality and design of the materials in the cabin. Leather chairs are standard, although the CLS wouldn't be a Mercedes if there wasn't a long list of tempting options.

The two trim levels – regular and AMG Sport – offer a good level of equipment, including leather upholstery, satnav, alloy wheels, climate control, seven-speed auto gearbox and plenty of safety kit.

The AMG Sport variants include a subtle bodykit, sportier suspension, larger alloy wheels and LED headlights. Audio upgrades, contrasting cabin trim choices, different leather and wheels plus a host of other comfort and safety kit form the bulk of the cost options.

Mercedes has sensibly limited the choice of engines to three – two diesel and one petrol.

Being an estate car of sorts, diesel makes a lot of sense, and Mercedes' popular 250 and 350 CDI units offer affordable and more than adequate performance, while economy and emissions ratings are close enough to pick the more powerful motor with a relatively clean conscience.

The 250 and 350 CDI diesel engines output a reasonable 201bhp and healthy 261bhp respectively, plus 53.3mpg and 135g/km CO2 for the smaller four-cylinder engine and 47.1mpg and 161g/km for the six-cylinder motor.

That petrol engine? It's Mercedes' new 5.5-litre turbo AMG unit, which means 549bhp through the rear wheels and a noise that'll frighten small children.

Those diesel offerings will be kinder on your finances, with the 250 CDI providing a balance of economy and cruising ability and the more powerful 350 CDI delivering an extra slug of power and torque to make light work of hills, hauling kit and high-speed motoring.

Factor in the car's well-judged suspension – including air springs at the rear, long wheelbase, variable assistance steering and smart auto gearbox – and it's hard not to find the CLS a soothing and rewarding experience.

The CLS Shooting Brake boasts a larger than life personality. Its bold looks and surprisingly practical layout ensures that it's destined for great things.

In 2003 the original car caught many by surprise, but this Shooting Brake is a welcome and timely addition to the CLS range.

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Offers are available for registrations between 03/07/12 and 01/10/12 subject to availability and are available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). *Savings shown are against list price at time of publication, for details refer to Vauxhall's current price guide. All other sales categories are excluded, cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK-supplied vehicles only. Vauxhall Lifetime Warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply.



The chassis remains the same but the model line has undergone a complete refresher

Seat offers first glimpse of lighter and leaner Leon

SEAT has released the first images and details of the all-new Leon, which is the Spanish brand's headline display at this year's Paris Motor Show.

The Leon, said to be the most advanced car that Spanish car maker Seat has ever made, will be the

first model of a completely refreshed model line based on much the same chassis.

Thanks to a number of new production processes, the car is 90kg lighter than its predecessor, which in turn helps performance and emissions.

Choice

An Ecomotive version which is claimed to emit 99g/km of CO2 has been confirmed, along with a choice of

petrol and diesel engines. These powerplants make great leaps forward in terms of emissions, while being no less or even more powerful than before.

A five-door Leon will come first, followed by three-door 'SC' and estate 'ST' versions.

SE and FR specifications will be on show, with more reserved and sportier styling respectively.

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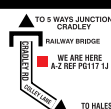
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 UPVC, Yale, Chubb, etc? Lost keys?
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 security locks changed, fitted, upgraded.
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Specialist in small plumbing repairs
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plus
3 nights FREE
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Cancel/amend, call before 4.00pm Monday -
Friday for the next day's advertisement or also
before 4pm Friday for Monday's advertisement

Lost & Found

LOST PLEASE HELP ME FIND MY BELOVED CAT

Dark chocolate brown,
Oriental neutered Male,
microchipped, missing from
garden in Richborough Drive,
Dudley, on Friday, Septem-
ber 28, between 5pm-7pm.

He is very timid and hides,
please check behind sheds and
dense foliage in garden, he may
have travelled as far as Milking
Bank Est. or
Gornal area.

Reward for safe return.
Please call with any info
01384 233789 or 01902 670491.



POPPY FEMALE CAT
Missing since Monday,
September 3, pale grey and
white, she is very friendly and
approachable and she is
greatly loved and missed and
we are devastated she has
gone, generous reward for
finding her.

Please check sheds/garages.
07905 066334, 07871 976145.
01902 680547, 01902 590638.

personal

ATTRACTIVE

Intelligent, kind hearted slim
lady,

varied interests, mid sixties,
WLTm, gentleman, for
socialising. Shared expenses.

Box Number P18083,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

DON'T BE LONELY THIS CHRISTMAS

Outgoing 50 year old female,
WLTm, genuine solvent guy
who enjoys theatre, cinema,
eating out, keeping fit and
travelling.

Maybe we could see in the
New Year together.
Box Number P18098,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

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Seek motivated people to sell and
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textcall Lynne 07891 470111

GARAGE SPACE Wanted to keep
one motor car, Sedgely area, no
maintenance. 01902 675056.

GENUINE MALE, 55.

Loyal, honest and caring, is
looking to find soulmate to
share life with. 100% genuine.
Photograph appreciated
(returned).

Box Number P18084,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

INDIAN GENTLEMAN 48
6ft tall, athletic build, single,
non smoker, likes to spend
winter in sunnier climates.
WLTm a non smoking lady age
30 - 45 with GSOH for travel,
Friendship and possibly
leading to Relationship.
Photo appreciated and
returned.

Box Number P18089,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

IRENE AND GRAHAM SMITH

Are trying to find Barbara Joan
and Daughter Tracy
Ann.

Last known address Long
Lane, also Younger Sisters
Jacqueline Ann and Janet,
last known at Rydal House.
Jacqueline Ann may have
joined the West.

Please, please get in touch,
may be the last memories be
happy ones.

Box Number P18090,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

NETHERTON LADIES FOOTBALL

U17s wanted.
Experienced Goal keeper and
2/3 outfield players for fully
chartered club.
Details contact
Steve on 07595 498066.

NICE ATTRACTIVE LADY

WLTm attractive, kind, honest,
considerate man, mid 50's, for
friendship maybe more, to
enjoy things together. Photo
a p p r e c i a t e d
and will return

None smoker.
Genuine replies only.
Box Number P18093,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

NICE LADY 50+ WOULD LIKE TO MEET GENUINE GENTLEMAN 50+

For companionship, would like
a none smoking gent for friend-
ship, leading to possibly long
term relationship. I am homely
lady who enjoys nights in and
nights out,
holidays, meals, cinema etc.
All letters answered.

Box Number P18102,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



PENN COLTS FC ACADEMY

School year 1 and 2 in
September.
Looking for players to join our
academy.
Training Saturday mornings.
FA and CRB Coaches.
For more for information
contact
Dave on 07831 582978.



QUALITY WINGER AND DEFENDERS WANTED

To boost under 12's existing
team. Last year winners of
both division and cup.
Call Daz on
07922 351378.



SINCERE SMART ACTIVE MAN

60+, enjoys eating out, theatre,
holidays and lots
more.
WLTm a lady, 55-65, seeking
loyal genuine friendship,
maybe romance.

Box Number P18101,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

SPEED DATING EVENT Tues

Nov 6, ages 35-55, Sky, At The Old
Stags Head, W.ton. For inquiries
+ adv booking tel 07576 457272 or
www.whenthe music stops.com



WOLVERHAMPTON SPORT- ING CFC

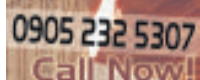
Require Youth Football
Players for Midweek, floodlit
league, age group, 16-18 years
old.

Trials will be held at Goals
Soccer Centre, Darlaston
WV14 7BL
Tuesday October 9, at 7.30pm,
all positions required.
Mark 07966 505425.



Chat & Date

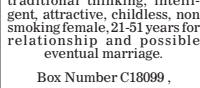
0905 232 5307
Call Now!!



YOUNGER LOOKING 39 YEAR OLD MALE

Considered Attractive, seeks
traditional thinking, intelligent,
attractive, childless, non
smoking female, 21-51 years for
relationship and possible
eventual marriage.

Box Number C18099,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



market place

60+, enjoys eating out, theatre,
holidays and lots
more.
WLTm a lady, 55-65, seeking
loyal genuine friendship,
maybe romance.



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multirooms, 10 yrs experience,
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any written quote!
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1 aerial into 2 rooms
£85
1 aerial into 4 rooms
£125

01902 858191 or
01384 429166
01543 439095 or
01922 716029



MAHOGANY T/Games table,

dropleaf, circa 1800's, £200.
07812 920818.

PAIR OF ARTS and craft chairs, 1
armchair and 1 nursing chair,
excellent condition, £500.
07812 920818

WANTED—Antique clocks by
local collector, good prices paid
for quality items. Prompt atten-
tion. 07712 062107.

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WEDDING DRESSES, new, 8 for
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DARK OAK OVAL TABLE, carved
pedestal, seats 6, with 6 chairs, 2
are carvers, excellent, £200 one.
01902 766483.

HOUSE CLEARANCE Lounge
and bedroom furniture, downsiz-
ing, all must go, from £5.
07954 166818.

KINGSIZE DIVAN bed, 4 drawer,
pine head board, excellent con-
dition, £100, 01902 711050.

LEATHER THREE seater, black,
perfect condition, never used.
£250, 07735 306508, Wednesfield.

LEATHER WINGED Back chair, ox
blood colour, as new £250.
Bilston 07738 151733.

**TWO CREAM CUSTOM
MADE FABRIC 3 SEATER
SOFAS**

Sprung base, excellent
condition, plus 1 matching
chair and matching custom
made cushions, must be seen to
appreciate quality, moving,
quick sale
£700.

01902 637010.

WADE 2 seater settee, excel-
lent condition, £65 ono. Single
divan bed, 1 drawer, 18 months
old, immaculate, £50. Walnut
effect corner computer desk, 6
months old, space needed, as
new, £40.
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A ABSOLUTE cash price paid for
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CURRY'S LARPER FREEZER 4
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**CARPENTRY, PLUMBING
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Far too many to mention.
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Forty seven years in trade.
Moving abroad forces sale.
From £10 to £100 upwards or
offers on job lot.

07760 453153.
Wolverhampton.

CORRUGATED roofing sheets
Also tile effect box profile
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Hornsey Steels 01547 530419

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1TA. Indoor and next to Merryhill
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£30.
07980 435999.

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Upgrade your Television today!
Large screen LCD TVs
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items wanted

A BUTCHERS bike, £300 paid,
penny farthing bike, £1,500 paid,
hand on washer, early twin tub.
07930 949337, 01384 464309.

kitchens & bathrooms

A RANGE OF 21 Brand new
kitchen units, walnut, worktop,
stainless oven, glass extractor
£1,300, 01902 685258.

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DRUM KIT 7 piece Pearl VBX
Vision kit, with hardware and
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07625 741150.

DRUMMER REQUIRED for well
established rock tribute band,
banging out tunes from the last 5
decades. 07787 182037.

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All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester
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WANTED**
All conditions
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*Tri-ang, cars or
complete sets.
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Also live steam.

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A AND M CHEAP Removals local, careful firm, full/partial loads. Don 0800 387 6577 / 0749 941319
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Single items to Full Removals.
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MT SKIPS
All sizes
All areas covered
Immediate delivery
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Antique 3/4 slate bed, turned mahogany legs, all accessories, good order 0600, 01384 77225.

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AERIAL / TV SPECIALISTS
TV Plasma / LCD repairs
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business

public & legal notices

IN THE MATTER OF PRECISION STAINLESS LIMITED (Company Number: 7491756) AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT AND RULES 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Frank Anthony Hatch of F A Hatch & Co., of Castle View, 48 Salop Street, Dudley, West Midlands DY1 3AY, (telephone number, 01384 458262) was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company by its Members and Creditors on WEDNESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2012.
Dated this 26th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2012
Frank A Hatch
FRANK ANTHONY HATCH LIQUIDATOR

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on
01902 713146
or email m.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

commercial premises

CHEAP SMALL INDUSTRIAL UNITS for rent in Brierley Hill suitable for storage from £20 + VAT p/w
Tel 0208 203 4121

leisure

caravans / motorhomes

BAILEY SENATOR ARIZONA
2006, 4-berth, mover, Alko locks, alarm system, many extras available, excellent condition.
£5,500 ono.
07759 282535.

ELDDIS AVANTE 505
5 berth, lightweight, 2006, end bedroom / lounge, alloys, awning, motor mover, sun roof, all mod cons, immaculate condition, £6,995 ono.
01902 635007.

ELDDIS ODYSSEY 505
5 berth, 2005, end bedroom, sun roof, CH, all mod cons, alloys etc. Fully equipped. Immaculate condition. £5,900.
01299 253677.

LUNAR DAYDREAM TOURER, 4 berth, new caravan mover, new tyres, accessories £1,250 ono. 01902 375808 or 07814 676309.

LUNAR FREELANDER 640L, 2004, twin axle, 26ft, Island fixed bed, good condition. Many extras. £6,500 ono. 07972 070700.

SWIFT 520 UTOPIA caravan 2007 Challenger SE, upgrade, excellent condition, £6,250 ono. Telephone 01384 294763.

SWIFT BURGUNDY 2010
35ft, 3 bedroom, GCH, DG, boxed. Immaculate condition. Sited at Barmouth Bay in lovely position, with swimming pool and private access to beach.
£24,000. 07791 184135.

TRAILER TENT 2008, many extras, including cooker, electric hook up, £500. 0121 531 0680.

WILLERY LYNDHURST CH, 2 bed, 38ft x 12ft, DG, 6, 2 lady owners, 5 star complete, Poole, Dorset £14,500 ono. 01202 280446.

WILLERY RIO GOLD
New 2012, 23 x 12, 2 bed, DG, CH, galvanised chassis and steps, connected to water and electric, 2 gas cylinders and regulator included, all manufacturers warranties, real quality caravan, sited at Sand Bay, coastal Somerset Village, family owned and dog friendly park by the sea.
Genuine sale, priced to sell, bargain
£22,495 ono.
07801 734823 - 01934 412680.

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equestrian corner

CHRYSANTHEUMS, fresh cut, £1.50 bunch of six, winter hanging basket and flower bags. 01902 762500.

in your garden

Top soil, Building sand, Paving/concrete sand, Decorative gravel, Delivered bagged or loose. 01902 893226

DOG WALKER & PET SITTER
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or call: 01902 086836

pets corner

DOG WALKER & PET SITTER
Details / prices on
www.WagTailWalkies.com
or call: 01902 086836

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a puppy farmer.

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.

Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

A SUPER COMPANION KITTEN, Rag Dolls and Ragamuffs. 01902 893617 or 07436 002653.

BEARDED COLLIE Cross with greyhound/lurcher puppies, ready now, bitches £100, dogs £50 each. 01902 887725.

BLACK and black and white kittens, £25 each. Telephone 07842 285174.

CHIHUAHUA CROSS papillons, small and pretty, wormed, £25 each. 07972 604503.

CHIHUAHUA Puppy, Male 9 weeks, black/tan, parents can be seen. £450. 07881 877486.

CREAM PERSIAN X kittens, fully vaccinated, litter trained, very loving, 12 weeks, £75. 07711 705625.

DION
Six years old, Rescued Collie X. Needs forever loving home. Great with dogs. I am timid and nervous so need training with experienced owner. Phone: 07928 727496.

GERMAN Shepherd pups, dogs and 1 bitch, parents can be seen, ready Oct 26. 07813 197808.

JACK RUSSELL bitch, tiny, 16 months old, spayed, chipped. £190. 01922 408657.

JACK RUSSELL Pups, tri coloured, black/tan, 2 dogs, 1 bitch, £150. 07966 238422.

KITTENS, 1 male, 1 female, white/ tabby, litter trained, wormed, £30 each. 07513 327786.

KITTENS, 8 weeks old. £20 each. 07931 117475.

KITTENS, eight weeks old, very cute, litter trained, one girl, two boys, £40 each. 07557 990535.

ONE KITTEN 6 months old, £25. Eight kittens, 5wks old, £35. Very cute, litter trained and weaned. 01384 371958 or 07990 548570.

SPROCKER PUPPIES, (Cocker cross Springer Spaniel), 8 weeks, black, liver and white, black and white, £250.

STAFFIE PUPPIES £100. 07928 128775

STAFFIE male, brindle, one year old, fully house trained, chipped, fully vaccinated, lovely playful dog. £100. 07785 617201.

THREE KITTENS One female, two males, black/white, £100. 0902 494759 after 2pm.

TWO KITTENS, 12 weeks old, 1 black and white male, 1 black female. £10. 07947 392257.

WHO CARES? WE DO BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!
We have built a new kennels for old/vulnerable dogs from local old people that can no longer care for them. We wanted to finish this block, due bad weather, fundraising has been difficult. We still need heat lamps, beds, various items. If you'd be grateful a small donation we'd be grateful. These dogs can thank you but I can!

If you can help/would like to see what we have done call 01588 676106. Donations to Animal Samaritans, The Round House, Borderley, Craven Arms, SY7 8HT.

what's on

markets

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07889 07548 All day standing
Stall Hire Available From £20

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52 WEEKS A YEAR, WHATEVER THE WEATHER!
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Hawks are flying as Amy nets a hat-trick

**Halas Hawks Girls U15 6
Withymoor U15 2**

THE under-15s sustained their unbeaten run with a victory over Withymoor Colts. Goalkeeper Alice Rogers made her debut in the 6-2 win. Amy Blakemore scored a hat-trick with Kayleigh Pomfrett and Abbey Willingale also on target.

**Stourbridge U17 3
Halas Hawks Girls U17 3**
A great game was witnessed between the U17 girls away to Stourbridge. Halas took the lead through Liz McAleenan with a free-kick. The home team equalised only for McAleenan to score another. Stourbridge then scored twice to take the lead but another free-kick saw Zoe Tidman hit home a long range shot to make it 3-3. Player of the match was Katie Hickman.

**Halas Hawks East U9s 0
Kewford Eagles West U9s 7**
The U9s East found themselves put out of the cup. A really competitive first half, with both teams having chances but the match finished 7-0 to Kewford. Man of the match was Luke Nock.

**Halas Hawks West U10 2
Oldswinford U10 6**
The U10s played Oldswinford youth in the first round of the cup and despite a brave effort from the Halas boys they went down 6-2. Goals came from Harvey Brookes and Altrin Alshiqi. Man of the Match went to Altrin Alshiqi.

**Halas Hawks East U11 2
Kewford Eagles East U11 7**
The U11s East Halas took the lead through Oliver Miller but went in 3-1 down at half-time. Halas conceded another after the break but pulled one back through Jake Checkett. Kewford scored three more goals. MOTM went to Oliver Miller and Jake Checkett.

**Halas Hawks U14 1
AFC Woodcross U14 1**
Halas started well and took an early lead when a fine move was finished off by Connor Fisher. Halas continued to press but couldn't convert the chances and Woodcross drew level before the break. The second half was end to end. Man of the Match was Jake Macdonald.

**Oldswinford U15 3
Halas Hawks U15 3**
A lively match saw the U15s go a goal down before Jack Guest's double strike saw two goals up at half-time. Charlie Bagley's goal sealed the show. Man of the Match went to Jack Guest.



Adel Taarabt (left) and Gonzalo Jara Reyes



Hawthorns favourite Zoltan Gera is denied as Rangers keeper Julio Cesar saves



Peter Odemwingie tackles Ryan Nelson

Thrilling times for the buoyant Baggies

Albion 3 QPR 2

STEVE CLARKE is still adopting a 'safety first message' despite Albion's record-breaking start to the season.

While fans are dreaming of challenging for a top six slot and possibly even of a Europa League excursion or two, Clarke is refusing to get carried away.

'Twenty-six more points are still required to achieve objective No.1' was the message from boss and players, referring to the target to ensure Premier League safety.

Yet while Clarke and his team sounded a knowing note of caution to end another fine day in their fabulous autumn, they won't stop Baggies fans enjoying the next couple of weeks. And why not?

These are heady days indeed to follow Albion with another little piece of club history re-written on Saturday as hapless QPR became the latest victims ejected from Fortress Hawthorns, chastened by a home side brimming with belief.

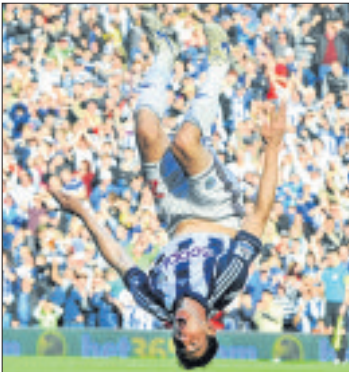
And try as they might to strike a balance between excitement and realism, those inside the camp will have their work cut out putting a lid on the soaring optimism.

Stiff tests await when Clarke and Co return to action after the latest international break with Manchester City and Newcastle ready to pounce on any hint of complacency at The Hawthorns. But for supporters, those sober realities can wait.

For another two weeks at least, their side are riding high in the world's most taxing football league and there is a fortnight of pride to be enjoyed.

Not since 1919 had a Baggies side won their opening four home games in the top division. That achievement was duly chalked up by the boys of 2012 despite some second-half difficulties.

The side of 93 years ago extended the sequence to six Hawthorns victories en-route to the First Division title.



Flying high - Zoltan Gera celebrates his goal



Albion midfielder Youssouf Mulumbu takes on Rangers defender Clint Hill

And, while even the most optimistic Baggies fans will not expect the Premier League trophy in the cabinet next May, there is a growing sense that Clarke's men are capable of giving their supporters a very special season to celebrate.

The fourth of their home successes was a curious mixed-bag of a victory. Albion's least assured all-round Hawthorns display so far contained their best footballing moments.

The first two goals to be scored past Ben Foster on home turf made for a nervous second half and owed much to some uncharacteristic sloppiness in the Albion ranks. Yet the pacy, incisive attacking play that secured three points was, at times, truly thrilling.

It was not only the Baggies goals that caught the eye, there were other moments of excellence, too, with Zoltan Gera and Shane Long spurning excellent opportunities to claim more memorable goals.

The Baggies were aided and abetted by some shocking Rangers defending for whom Anton Ferdinand and Clint Hill had torrid afternoons. But there was no denying the confidence and sense of purpose flowing through Clarke's side, who set the tone as early as the sixth minute with a fabulous opening goal.

Long turned on the right and his foot race with Hill proved a mismatch as the Irishman raced towards the byline and delivered a pinpoint cross that the fast-arriving James Morrison simply had to guide past Julio Cesar with his head.

Morrison returned the favour nine minutes later when he tore past Hill and crossed for Long, who had sparked the counter-attack by clearing a corner but was unable to end it as his far-post shot flew over. But when Hill was outstrutted again on 22 minutes by Morrison and Ferdinand failed to cut out the cross, Gera seized on the

loose ball and swept home his side's second.

It took two pieces of magic for Rangers to reduce the arrears as Esteban Granero's sumptuous pass was matched by Adel Taarabt's super volleyed finish 10 minutes before the break. And moments later another incisive Baggies break saw Peter Odemwingie's crossfield pass release Gera, who was denied only by Cesar's low save.

The half-time interval brought about a loss of cohesion for the Baggies, who lacked a crispness in their passing until the final five minutes, with the goal of the game as they sliced Rangers open with a one-touch move started and ended by Mulumbu.

Even then, Granero had time to bend home a late goal and Jose Bosingwa squandered an excellent stoppage-time chance to grab an unlikely point.

It tested the nerves of Baggies fans. But now they can look forward to a fortnight of happy reflection.

Heathens wait for a ruling on Bates

DUDLEY HEATHENS are waiting for clarification from the sport's governing body regarding the eligibility of Mildenhall reserve Josh Bates in last Sunday's 61-33 Knockout Cup final first leg defeat.

Bates, who suffered a broken arm in August but has made a stunning recovery, scored 10+2 on his return to the Tigers side.

Heathens were accused of using 'dirty tricks' by Mildenhall promoter Kevin Jolly on Monday.

Now the Heathens management team have issued the following statement:

"It is quite clear we could have objected on the day to the use of Josh but that would not have been fair on the Mildenhall and Dudley fans who had paid to watch the meeting.

"The situation, as we see it, is that the referee made a note of the Josh Bates issue on his report.

"It has been brought to our attention that Mildenhall were informed by the British Speedway Promoters' Association that Josh Bates could not be brought back into the side.

"Josh was also not in Mildenhall's team declaration but still rode on Sunday.

"As stated previously by our chairman, if Josh's inclusion was legal and above board then we have no problem with it. But it appears that is not the case and we await clarification from the BSA."

The second leg is at Monmore on Tuesday, October 23.

Jones set Euro date

BRIERLEY HILL'S Mark Jones will be a part of the PDC's next European tour.

The Black Country darter will go to Holland this month to compete in the Dutch Darts Masters after winning both games in Dublin at the weekend.

The 42-year-old edged past Michael Barnard 6-4 on Friday afternoon and beat William O'Connor 6-5.

Jones then moved on to compete in the two Players Championship events, also at the City West Hotel.

He beat Stuart Kellett (6-3), Ronnie Baxter (6-1) and Andy Smith (6-3) before losing to Aaron Monk (6-1).

In the final tournament he suffered a 6-1 first round defeat to Nigel Heydon.



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Rider row
Heathens await
ruling on Tiger
Page 39

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Hill nets his first victory as boss

**Halesowen Town 4
Kids Grove Athletic 3**
JOHN HILL was celebrating his first victory as Halesowen boss after his side edged a seven-goal thriller with Kids Grove.

Two goals each from Ben Smith and Ben Haseley secured the Evo-Stik League Division One South points for the Yeltz.

The hosts made a flying start when Smith lashed home his first goal of the season after just four minutes.

But Kids Grove were level on 18 minutes when Andy Kinsey scored from the spot after Sam Brooks brought down Liam Shotton.

The Yeltz responded and Haseley beat keeper Dave Dyson to put them 2-1 up.

The hosts seemed to have put the game to bed with a superb third goal in the 50th minute.

Haseley started a quick-fire break following a Kids Grove corner by finding Luke Corbett. He set Jean-Michel Gueyres free to cross from the right for Haseley to tap home his 15th goal of the season.

Kids Grove hit back with Shotton racing through Halesowen's defence to draw Paul Evans out of goal before slotting home to make it 3-2.

The Yeltz re-established their two-goal advantage in the 80th minute when Smith cracked home a low 25-yard drive following a corner.

Kids Grove refused to buckle and Shotton set up a nervous finale when he tapped home to make it 4-3.

But the Yeltz held on to give Hill his first taste of success at The Grove.

Halesowen: P Evans, Bowen, Kelly, S. Brooks, Miller (Oatley 71), Milligan, Smith, Barnfield (W. Brooks 46), Corbett (D. Evans 77), Haseley, Gueyres. **Subs not used:** Powell, Flower.

Kids Grove: Dyson, Winkie, Shenton (Sherratt 59), Dove, Curley, Donnelly, Hill (Johnston 59), Shotton, Shotton, Kinsey, Grigg. **Subs not used:** Ransay, Veron, Lewis.

Referee: Kevin Andrews. **Attendance:** 189.

Brummies slash prices

BIRMINGHAM speedway have again slashed admission prices for tonight's Elite League Speedway Knockout Cup clash with Belle Vue.

The prices are £10 adults, £8 concessions, £3 for 14-17-year-olds while entrance for under-14s is free.

Selco Brummies will again be without Bjarne Pedersen who has seen his season ended with an ankle injury.

Domination as Hales get first points on board

OHHC 1st XI 3 Shrewsbury 1

AFTER the disappointment of last week's defeat in the season opener, Old Halesonians 1st XI hosted Shrewsbury, hoping to get their first points on the board. Despite an understandably nervous start, Hales were able to dominate the second half.

It was very much a deadlock between the two sides at the start of the game, with the sides cancelling each other out.

The breakthrough came for Hales, when captain Chris Whitley found the net.

Following a penalty corner which was initially saved by Shrewsbury, Whitley was able to pounce on the rebound and flick it past the helpless defence. Shrewsbury hit Hales hard in the final moments before half-time.

Early in the second half, Hales doubled

Old Halesonians Hockey

their lead following a penalty. Paul Woodall kept his cool and stepped up to flick the ball past the diving Shrewsbury goalkeeper.

Shrewsbury stepped up the pace of the game, as they searched for a goal. Despite the best efforts of the Hales defence, the visitors' goal soon came when the ball was slipped through the legs of Old Hales goalkeeper Alex Fraser. However, this was to be their last attack of the game.

With the Hales players camped in the Shrewsbury half, it was only a matter of time before the home side increased their lead. The Hales' third goal finally came from a penalty corner. Tom Durnford flicked the ball low and hard into the goal to make it 3-

1. Shrewsbury kept Hales from increasing their lead further, in a game where the score could have been much greater if the home side had been more clinical in front of goal.

Shrewsbury 2 OHHC 2nd XI 1

Old Halesonians 2nd XI went to Shrewsbury with high hopes for the new season, with the team from Halesowen having changed dramatically from the side that had lost 6-1 to Shrewsbury the previous season, with league debuts handed to three players.

The game started at an electric pace with the home side having the better of the opening exchanges. Old Hales were struggling to maintain any sort of possession and as a result conceded the first goal in unfortunate circumstances. The ball was played into the D from the right-hand side which

took a deflection off the stick of captain Mark Rigby, leaving Steve Charlton helpless in goal. The Old Hales team started to rally, resulting in more pressure being applied to the experienced Shrewsbury team who were now relying on fast counter attacks.

The second half saw Old Hales continue their push for their first league goal of the season with Dan Scarrett marshalling the midfield well with support from Gareth Bayley and Nathan Whitehouse. The visiting team equalised through some great work from Ashley Greaves who managed to find Charles Palmer with a clever pass. The last 20 minutes of the game became very stretched with both teams desperate. Shrewsbury attacked with purpose and eventually they claimed a winner.

Return fixture is reversal

**OHHC Ladies 1st XI 1
Bournville Ladies 2nd XI 2**
OLD Hales Ladies were unable to continue from last week's 6-0 win, in the reverse fixture versus Bournville.

The strange fixture list meant that Hales hosted the Birmingham-based side, despite playing them last week and both teams started nervously.

The score was stranded at 0-0 following some great defensive play. Bournville broke the stalemate in the second half but, almost immediately from the restart, woman of the match Annie Smith grabbed the equaliser for Hales.

With just five minutes remaining Bournville grabbed a winner, and will be thankful to their efficient goalkeeper.

OHHC Ladies 2nd XI 1

Droitwich 2nd XI 0
The Ladies second XI continued their first ever league campaign in style as they beat Droitwich with just 10 players.

After picking up another three points, they remain undefeated in Division Three of the Worcestershire League.

Suzanne Collins scored the only goal of the game. Gemma Taylor won woman of the match for the second consecutive week.

OHHC 3rd XI 7

Shrewsbury 3
Two hat-tricks allowed Hales to dominate the game versus Shrewsbury, as the third XI picked up their first win of the season.

Steve Butler & Adam Hill both scored hat-tricks, with Nick Truelove completing the score sheet.

Other Results: Sutton Coldfield 7th XI 1-10 OHHC 4th XI

Sutton Coldfield 9th XI 3-2 OHHC 5th XI

OHHC Badgers 1-4 Sutton Coldfield Badgers

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HAWTHORNS HERO EYES A EURO PUSH

JONAS OLSSON is on a Euro mission after signing a new lucrative contract at The Hawthorns.

The hugely popular central defender has ended speculation regarding his future by agreeing a four-year deal that could net him around £7m.

Albion's best start to a season for nearly 100 years will have helped persuade Swede Olsson to commit his remaining peak years to the club.

And the 29-year-old believes the Baggies have never been better placed for a return to European football for the first time in 30 years.

"I really feel the club has been managed in the very best way. We've been keeping the squad intact over the last few years," said Olsson, who joined the club for £800,000 from NEC Nijmegen in 2008.

"We've had a chance to really connect as a group. It's a very nice group and I always come into training with a smile on my face.

"I'm really happy to be part of that and it is vital you are happy in that way.

"But why not Europe? Last season we were up there fighting for it. We didn't go all the way to the top seven, top eight last year but if we keep performing like this, who knows where the season could take us?"

"I very much like where the club is going and the way we have progressed over the last few years.

"That made the decision, in the end, easy."

Olsson's new deal ties him to Albion until the summer of 2016 and is expected to make him one of the Baggies' highest-paid

by Martin Swain

players with wages in excess of £40,000 per week.

The deal is the latest coup for the Baggies, who completed the permanent signing of goalkeeper Ben Foster in the summer on a long-term deal and agreed a new four-year contract with midfielder James Morrison last month.

Olsson also admitted his partnership with Gareth McAuley was a key factor in his decision to commit his future to Albion.

Northern Ireland international McAuley has been a huge hit alongside Olsson since arriving on a free transfer the summer before last.

"I finally feel I've been able to get a good partnership at centre-half," said Olsson. "I very much enjoy playing with Gareth and I hope our relationship can be a long one."

"One of the reasons I have re-signed is that I really love playing with him. He's a good guy as well and that makes it easier to connect."

"It's normal when you play next to each other on the field to talk a lot and be friends. I definitely feel a connection with him."

Stars in stripes are looking to soar



Hales Hawks East Under 9s are hoping to mount a push for promotion in Division Two of the Stourbridge and District Youth League. Hawks round-up - Page 39

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